


The  
Boy's Book Of Famous  
Regiments  
(1915)



Henry Alexander Ogden  
Harry Alton Hitchcock



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# **The Boy's Book Of Famous Regiments**

**Henry Alexander Ogden**

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# The Boy's Book of Famous Regiments

*"Theirs not to reason why,  
Theirs but to do and die."*

By

H. A. OGDEN

*With the collaboration of*

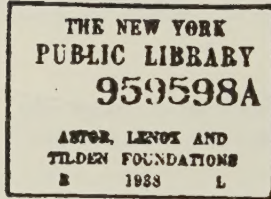
H. A. HITCHCOCK

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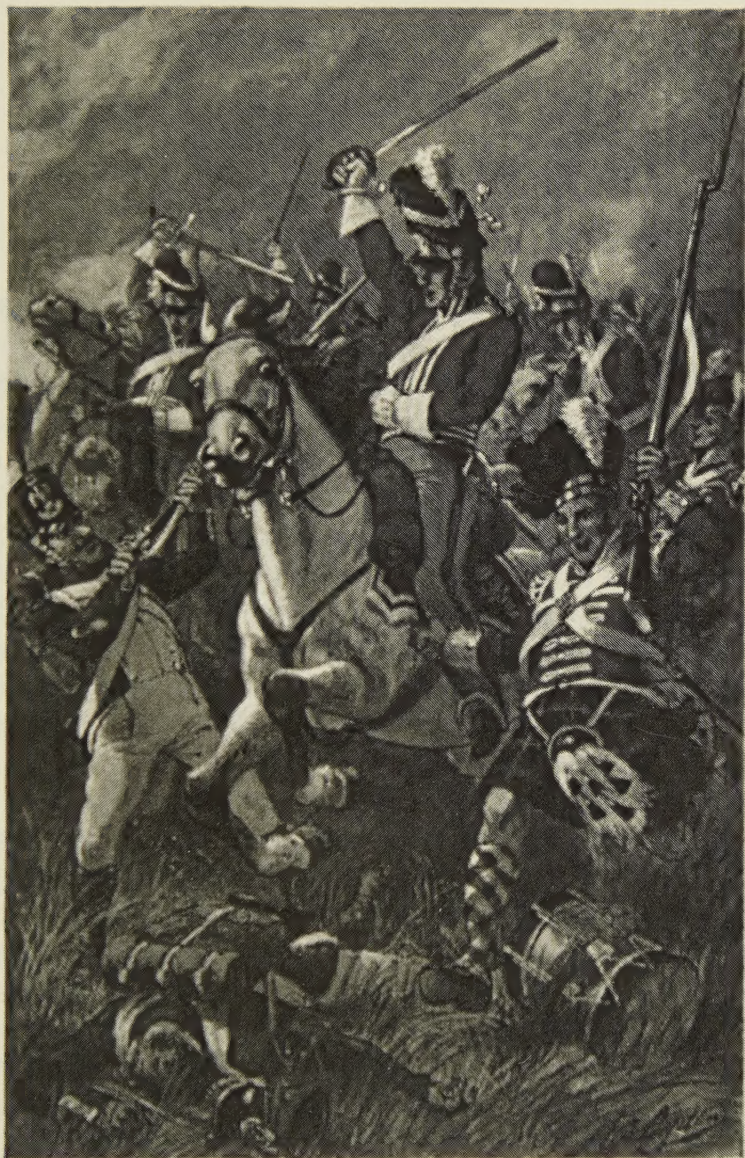
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SCOTS GREYS AND GORDON HIGHLANDERS  
AT WATERLOO

The Highlanders seized the stirrup leathers of the Greys and joined  
in the battle cry: "Scotland Forever."



## PREFACE

When you see the "Black Watch," the famous Highland regiment, come swinging along with martial step, the pipers playing and the feather bonnets, kilts and sporrans swaying, you feel a quickening of the blood and a glow of enthusiasm. Their uniforms, their standards, their decorations, all symbolize the glories of the past and give you a feeling of sure confidence in their future prowess, when the call of duty should come.

Once when General O'Higgins, the brave and resourceful Irishman who helped the Chilians win their struggle for independence, was rallying his regiments for a new charge, he dashed to the front of the line and called out to them, "Come on boys, to death or glory!" One of his staff officers hurried forward and remonstrated with him saying, "General, you have said 'Come on' when you meant 'Go on'!"

"Well, if I said it I *mean* it," said the intrepid Irishman, and thereupon he put himself again at the head of his men, inspiring them with an example that needed no language. General O'Higgins had not taken time to perfect his Spanish, but he had been successful in developing splendid "team work" in his raw Chilian troops.



## PREFACE

This spirit of enthusiasm and coöperation from the leader down to the humblest man in the ranks, called by the French *esprit du corps*, is the great factor which wins success everywhere—on the battle line and in the friendly contests of your athletic field. The regiment in its relation to an army, or army corps, is very much like that of a family to a community. Both the regiment and the family take pride in their origin, cherish all the honorable traditions and strive to maintain the achievements that have been handed down from generation to generation.

The summons to arms has come to the regiments of Europe just as we are putting the finishing touches to this record of valor and achievement. The brief reports of generals in the field are devoted mainly to the movements of armies and the larger units with only a slight reference to the individual glories of the regiments. While the detailed record of the greatest war in history is yet to be written, it has been possible to gather in our final chapter, from scattered accounts, some stirring instances where regimental history is grandly repeating itself.



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**THE BOY'S BOOK OF FAMOUS REGIMENTS**





# THE BOY'S BOOK OF FAMOUS REGIMENTS

## CHAPTER I

### THE ORIGIN OF THE REGIMENT—CROMWELL'S IRONSIDES

*"Our business is like men to fight,  
And hero-like to die."*

SOME of my Boy Scout readers have perhaps tried to make a detailed plan of the military evolutions of one of the world's great decisive battles, with the historian's account before them as a guide. In laying out the positions of the armies with colored markers, you have probably made the same interesting discovery the author has in writing this narrative of regimental glories, that the history of a great battle, as Napoleon said, "belongs rather to the biography of regiments than the history of the army."

At first the battle seems to progress by the orderly movements of corps and brigades, but soon in the collision of fighting these larger units break up into small

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struggling groups; and often in military history defeat is turned into victory by the valor of one or two regiments or the brilliant exploit of a single officer or man from the ranks.

It was not until Queen Elizabeth's time that the armies were divided into regimental units. From the earliest days when the fate of nations was decided by battle the warriors were divided according to the weapons they used. The Egyptians had their spearmen, or archers and chariots; the chariots having two riders, one to drive and the other with his javelin or bow and arrows to assail the enemy. The Persians divided their forces into tens, hundreds and thousands, with officers commanding the decimal subdivisions. Alexander the Great had immense phalanxes composed of 16,000 and sometimes 18,000 men, armed with spears twenty-four feet long. Then came the Romans who with their six-foot javelins and short swords cut their way to universal conquest. Cæsar's army was divided into legions, one of which, the famous "Fifth," was recruited from the conquered Gauls. A Roman "legion" was made up of 4500—300 of which were horsemen—and was subdivided into "cohorts," that again into a "manipulus" of 100 men, commanded by a "centurion"; each had their standard, the first cohort carrying the eagle of the legion.

In the Middle Ages the fighting was done by the

knights in armor and the peasantry. Little formation was kept or divisions in the armies observed. The heavily mounted knight charged and fought his opponent hand to hand with lance, sword and battle ax. Each had his followers to gather under his flag or pennon. A battle was a *mêlée* and was made in an "every man for himself" fashion. Mercenary bodies of foot troops, among which were the Swiss Landsnechts and Genoese cross-bowmen fought for hire. It was due, however, to the long bow of the peasants with their "cloth-yard arrows," that the battles of Crecy, Poitiers and Agincourt were won for England. So proud was that nation of its prowess with the cross-bow, that, it is said, Queen Elizabeth some centuries later wanted to reintroduce a corps of "long-bows" into her army. When Gustavus Adolphus, Sweden's famous warrior king, fought and won his great battles in the seventeenth century he introduced a more modern system in his army. The unwieldy regiments of from 2000 to 3000 men were cut down to 1300 divided into eight companies—two regiments forming a brigade; two-thirds of a regiment was composed of musketeers and one-third of pikemen. Bodies of cavalry were placed on either flank and it was in a similar method of formation that one of England's famous fighting corps overthrew King Charles I and made their colonel and leader ruler of England.

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### CROMWELL'S "IRONSIDES"

Composed in its larger part of stern-men, strong in their religious convictions, the Ironsides had been drilled by Cromwell until they were not only a splendid body of soldiers, but a power in the political state of the time. At the battle of Marston Moor, late in the afternoon after chanting a psalm, their doughty colonel led this steel-clad body of seasoned cavalry in a furious charge against the Royal Cavalry of Prince Rupert. The fight was a stubborn one, but Cromwell bringing up his reserve of Scottish "horse" the Royalists opposing him were put to rout. Passing completely around the enemy, the "Ironsides" attacked and defeated one regiment after another. The Royalist cavalry, who had been successful at the other end of the line, were taken in the rear, and when night came the King's whole army was in flight. The battle had been won entirely by Cromwell and his "Ironsides," for the rest of the Puritan army had been defeated.

The discipline and ability of this regiment or corps caused the whole Parliamentary army to be reorganized on the "New Model," Cromwell eventually being placed in supreme command. Again, at the battle of Naseby it was this regiment that defeated the King's forces, for, devoted to their leader who so often led them to victory,



they proved invincible. During the latter years of Cromwell's reign as "Protector" they were sent to aid France in a war against Spain. At the battle of Dunkirk they cut the retreating Spaniards to pieces, and so wound up their record of victories. Belonging to an epoch when the Commonwealth of Cromwell and his son ended, they disappeared from the scene, but their traits of character were preserved in the Puritan settlers of New England, who infused their determination, spirit and devotion to principle into the wars of their new country in later times.



At Marston Moor, Prince Rupert bestowed the title of "Ironsides" upon Cromwell and his troopers. Armed with long straight swords and pistols in holsters, and equipped with steel cap-shaded helmet and cuirass, worn over a buff leather coat, on their strong stocky horses and charging "knee to knee," their weight proved irresistible in the shock of battle.

## CHAPTER II

### THE VALOR OF SOME BRITISH REGIMENTS

#### THE HOUSEHOLD BRIGADE—THE LIFE GUARDS

OUR narrative of the days and deeds of famous British regiments begins with the historic Life Guards, whose daily inspection and guard mount at the Whitehall Armory gives a picturesque dash of color to London life. The Guards, resplendent in their bright uniforms with the predominant note of national red, sit like living statues upon magnificent jet black horses, the admiration of every one who has a drop of martial blood in his veins.

Life Guards, or Body Guards, have been the protectors of the royal households since the days of the early Assyrian kings and their personnel and equipment has been the special pride and interest of the monarchs themselves. Alexander selected for his bodyguard the bravest of his army to form the famous *Argyraspides*, or "Silver Shields." The Roman emperors also had their *Prætorian Guard* and when Napoleon was only a general, in his first Italian campaign, he created a small troop called the "Guides" which formed part of his

## VALOR OF SOME BRITISH REGIMENTS 7

famous Old Guard, "which dies but never surrenders."

The Household Brigade of England consists of three regiments of cavalry and four of infantry or "foot guards." All of the cavalry and three of the foot regiments have long and distinguished records since their origin during the Restoration in 1660. The Life Guards, however, were formed from troops who had shared King Charles' exile, known as the "Kings" and the "Duke of York's" troops, and were given the title of "First and Second Life Guards." Serving as a body-guard to the sovereign, they left the kingdom only when the King took personal command, as was the case when they performed gallant services under William III in his battles in Holland.

In 1808, when the Duke of Wellington appeared on Spanish soil ready for the last bout with Napoleon in the struggle for Spanish independence the Guards helped him win the important victories of the six years' Peninsular War; and at Waterloo, a year later, with the other veterans of the "Heavy Cavalry Brigade" they bore a leading part. The Guards again saw foreign service in 1882, when the insurrection broke out in the Soudan and they were sent to the relief of the English garrisons under General Gordon at Khartum. In the severe campaigning in South Africa during the Boer War, they served under Lord Roberts.

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The two regiments of Life Guards are distinguished by slight differences in uniform, the 2d having a fine blue cord on their white carbine belts and white sheepskin housings, while the 1st has a red cord and black housings—with helmets and cuirasses of polished steel, long horsehair plumes, enormous buckskin gauntlets, and high “jack boots.” They make a brilliant and striking picture as they mount guard at their Whitehall armory.

### THE ROYAL HORSE GUARDS

The third regiment of horse in the Household Brigade is the “Royal Horse Guards,” commonly called “the Blues” because their uniform coats are of that color, while the “Life Guards” wear the national red. Their first colonel was the Earl of Oxford and they fought under William III at the Battle of the Boyne in 1689.



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The "Blues" also saw the same service as the Life Guards in that doughty monarch's continental campaigns, when all Europe was arrayed against Louis XIV and his only ally the Turk.

Two squadrons of the regiment served in Spain, and two at Waterloo. Their colonels have always been noblemen of high rank, dukes, earls and lords succeeding one another in the years since their origin. King George III presented them with a pair of silver kettle-drums and frequently wore their uniforms at reviews. The great Duke of Wellington was their honorary colonel in 1813 and when the late King Edward VII was Prince of Wales he often reviewed this regiment of which he was also honorary colonel.

### THE BRIGADE OF "FOOT GUARDS"

Four regiments compose this noted brigade, the "Grenadiers," "Coldstreams," "Scots" and "Irish." All but the Irish regiment, which was added to the brigade by Queen Victoria near the end of her reign, date their origin to the same period as the "Life Guards" (1660). The "Grenadier Guard" was first called the "Royal Regiment of Guards," the title "Grenadiers" being bestowed upon them in 1815 by the Prince Regent, afterward George IV, in commemoration of their splendid services at Waterloo. The whole regiment, instead of a single

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company, then adopted the tall bearskin cap which is a distinguishing part of their uniform.

When first organized the Grenadiers consisted of 700 red-coated musketeers and 500 pikemen clad in buff coats, with round hats and feathers, broad collars and blue or red stockings. To record the services and exploits of the Grenadiers during the two and a half centuries of their existence would require several volumes the size of this one. They were a loyal "Stuart" regiment and many of the officers were dismissed by the Dutch King, William III, who commanded them in his Flanders campaign, as well as the "Coldstreams" and the "Scots." On one occasion they were reviewed at Genappe near the battlefield of Waterloo where they were to gain renown for endurance and bravery more than a century later.

During the siege of Lille, in 1708, five of the grenadiers from the ranks volunteered for a perilous duty that involved the cutting down of a drawbridge by swimming a ditch under a murderous fire from the ramparts. Two of the men were killed, but one of them by the name of Lettler reached the other side of the moat. Private Lettler was promoted for his gallant action and afterwards was advanced grade by grade until he became Lieutenant Colonel of the Grenadiers, one of the occasional instances in the British army of promotion from the ranks.

At Steenkerke, when the French army was pitted against the allied armies of England, Holland, Spain and Germany, the Guards were successful in checking the brilliant advances of the French under Luxemburg and the indomitable Marshal Boufflers, who at Lille would not heed Louis Fourteenth's signed order directing him to surrender, until he had exhausted all means of defense. With the "Coldstreams" and the "Scots" during this war, the Grenadiers stormed and took the citadel of Namur, a fortress considered impregnable, losing half a company and most of its officers. From 1702 to 1712 their services under their Colonel-in-Chief, the great Duke of Marlborough, at Blenheim, Ramillies, Oudenarde and Malplaquet were instrumental in making these battles decisive victories.

When the British army joined the Allies to defend the Netherlands against the French army under the great general, Marshal Saxe, they encountered defeat at Fontenoy in May 1, 1745. The army of King George was commanded by his second son, the Duke of Cumberland, and the Foot Guards held the center of the first line of battle. As the columns were advancing over a low ridge they suddenly came upon the French Guards drawn up in battle array. In the brief interval before these seasoned veterans met in the collision of battle their dashing commanders exchanged the famous gallantries

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that have lightened the severe pages of military history with the glow of romantic chivalry.

Voltaire, describing this incident of the Netherland campaign, says: "The officers of the English Guards advancing saluted the French by taking off their hats. Two French officers who were in advance returned the salute, as did all the other French officers. Lord Hay, the English captain, exclaimed 'Gentlemen of the French Guards, fire!' 'Gentlemen, we never fire first; we will follow you,' was the reply of the Count d'Auteroche, lieutenant of Grenadiers." Nineteen officers and many men fell on the French side as a result of the discharge of musketry following this unprecedented display of courtesy.

In war of the American Revolution a brigade of Guards, composed of 1000, selected from the "Grenadiers," "Coldstreams" and "Scots," saw service in the Colonies at Brooklyn, White Plains, Brandywine, Germantown and in Philadelphia. They formed a part of General Howe's army and with Lord Cornwallis fought in most of the battles of his southern campaign. Their hardest fighting was at Guilford Court House, in which eleven officers were killed and over two hundred men killed and wounded. Here they were pitted against the best of the "Continental"—men of their own race and language.



## VALOR OF SOME BRITISH REGIMENTS 13

In Spain under Sir John Moore and Wellington they distinguished themselves, especially at the storming of San Sebastian in 1813. It was at Waterloo, however, that the regiment won lasting renown as well as their title of "Grenadiers." At Quatre Bras they came upon the field as a reenforcement to the other hard-pressed British troops, almost annihilating the French Cavalry who charged against them. With their fellow regiment of the Household Guards, the Coldstreams, they defended the Château of Hugomont against which Napoleon hurled the French left wing at the beginning of the conflict. It was Napoleon's intention to force Wellington to relieve this position—a plan that might have succeeded, but for the valiant defense of the Guards. Military authorities say that the French lost 8000 men in their repeated attacks on the English position at Hugomont.

Toward sunset, when the French were weakened on the front and on the flank and the whole English line was pushing forward to press their advantage, the tall bearskins of Napoleon's Imperial Guard could be seen through the smoke of battle marching from their reserve position and advancing toward Hugomont in support of their first column which was hastening to attack the English center. At this critical moment Wellington gave his famous order of "Up Guards and at them!" and in ranks

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of four deep they charged and put to rout the veteran grenadiers of the Imperial Guard who had marched steadily on though their comrades had given away on all sides at once. .

In Africa the Grenadier Guards have seen much service. At Tel-el-Kebir and the Egyptian War of 1882, with battalions of other "guard" regiments, they formed the Duke of Connaught's Brigade. In seventy days the British army traversed the desert, took possession of the capital of Egypt and defeated Arabi Pasha's forces in four battles. Under Lord Kitchener their first battalion fought the natives in the fierce fight at Omdurman in 1898, a victory which helped give Great Britain control of the Nile Valley. In the year 1900 they were again in Africa fighting the Boers. Their third battalion, with two of the Coldstreams and one of the Scots, were with Lord Methuen's troops at the hotly contested crossing of the Modder River.

To give the record of the two other older "guard regiments," the "Coldstreams" and "Scots," would be largely a repetition of that of the "Grenadiers," although they, of course, have honors peculiarly their own. The "Coldstreams" were named from the town in Scotland from which they started, on the first of January, 1660, with General Monk to restore Charles II to the throne. Composed of veterans of two of Cromwell's old regi-

ments, the Coldstreams was the only one in the Commonwealth that was not disbanded by the new king. At Aboukir Bay and Alexandria, as well as later in the Crimea, in 1855, at the battles of the Alma, Inkerman and the Siege of Sebastapol the Coldstreams with their fellow regiments gloriously maintained their traditions for ancient valor.

William III in 1691 gave the regiment of Scots Guards the same privilege that was enjoyed by two other regiments of the "Guards." Their designation as the Third Foot Guards goes back to the days of Queen Anne. Like the other regiments in the household troops their duty is to protect the person of the sovereign and their record closely parallels the foreign service of the Grenadiers and the Coldstreams.

During the Crimean campaign the Third Foot was known as the Scots Fusileer Guards; and at Alma, with the other Guard regiments and the Highlanders, they bore the brunt of the battle on the heights. Their advance was retarded by a shallow river in direct range of the Russian batteries and unmindful of the murderous hail of shot and shell they stopped to fill their canteens. Half way up the slope, when they were opening their ranks to let the exhausted regiments of the vanguard retire and reform, they heard the command "the Fusileers will retire" given by the officers of the Welsh Fusileers.

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The Scots Fusileers, who were in the center of the Brigade of the Guards, had been drilled under that title, and now unable to hear their own regimental officers they thought the command was addressed to them. Turning right about they began to descend the hill. Down came the Russian infantry upon them, and if the mistake had not been quickly discovered the battle of the Alma might have been lost to England.

One of those brilliant instances of coolness and bravery under trying circumstances saved the army from annihilation and snatched victory from a temporary defeat. Lieutenants Lindsay and Thistlethwayte, the color bearers of the "Scots," stood firm and called out to their men to disregard the command to retire, keeping their colors erect though the Russian bayonets were only a few yards away. The color escort was shot down in the first volley and the two brave lieutenants, standing back to back and with their precious standards held aloft, fired their revolvers with deadly effect at the charging Russians. The next moment a sergeant and private of the regiment came to their aid. Acting as guides for the rallying line they closed up the ranks and the Scots again faced the volleys of grape and canister that the enemy's batteries sent through their ranks.

After two hours of the fiercest of fighting the Russians gave way, and Lieutenant Lindsay had the proud



## VALOR OF SOME BRITISH REGIMENTS 17

distinction of bearing the "Queen's color" over the bloody heights of Alma. Twenty-three shot holes were counted in the flag that clung to the shattered staff at the close of the battle.

For this conspicuous example of bravery, the young "Scots" officer, as well as the sergeant and private who aided him, were awarded the highly prized Victoria Cross. In 1877, the Queen restored their ancient title to the regiment, and they are now known as the "Scots Guards."

### IRISH GUARDS

The fourth regiment of the "Household Brigade" is the "Irish Guards." In former times there had been a regiment bearing this title, but they joined James II in his exile and soon afterward passed into the French service. On one occasion in the service of the French king they were opposed to the 18th Royal Irish, one of the British regiments, at the Battle of Malplaquet. Queen Victoria in recognition of the bravery and distinguished services of her Irish troops during the Boer War, in 1900, added a regiment of "Irish Guards" to the other three regiments of her "Household Brigade."

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### THE ROYAL SCOTS (FIRST REGIMENT OF FOOT)

The oldest infantry corps in military history

The helmet of Ivan the Terrible of Russia and the mighty sword of Gustavus Vasa hang among countless other relics of war and history in the Royal Museum at Stockholm. But more interesting to the young traveler are the banners and trophies that record the glories and achievements of "Hepburn's Scots," later known as the "Royal Scots," organized into a splendid fighting corps by Sweden's soldier King, Gustavus Adolphus.

This Scotch Guard, the oldest infantry corps in existence, has a probable origin as far back as 882. In continuous service during the Middle Ages in the armies of the kings of France, they remained in French garrisons until they rallied to the support of Gustavus, the Lion of the North. They were frequently praised by him in the presence of the army for their prowess and valor and were the backbone of the "Snow King's" sturdy legions, who in spite of their enemies' taunts refused "to melt in southern sun." Hepburn's Scots were beyond a doubt a mighty factor in making the fourth period of the Thirty Years' War a series of stirring victories, culminating with the death of the Snow King, on the field of Lützen, November, 1632.

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After Gustavus' death, they entered the French army, where with others of their countrymen they served in Flanders and Italy for some twenty years. As nearly all of the Puritan regiments had been disbanded upon the restoration of Charles II, the "Douglas" regiment as the Scots were then called, was brought over to England and became the basis of Great Britain's standing army of to-day, ranking first of the infantry regiments in the service.

Charles loaned the Douglas regiment to his brother monarch Louis XIV and they gathered fresh laurels under Marshal Turenne in his campaigns in Holland and along the Rhine. On their return to England a few years later their colonel was made Earl of Dumbarton and the Douglas regiment was called "Dumbarton Scots" in his honor, and it is to the tune of Dumbarton's drums that they march to-day.

About this time a new weapon in warfare was introduced, the small bomb or hand-grenade. So a company of picked men carrying large pouches filled with these missiles was added to Dumbarton's regiment. These "pocket" shells were ignited by a short fuse timed for a quick explosion and were thrown by hand into the enemy's ranks. This was the origin of the "Grenadier" regiments. The grenade, however, became obsolete but was later revived in the Russian-Japanese War and is

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used in the trench to-day along the Western battle-front. As their duties were more exacting than those of the pikemen or musketeers composing the rest of the regiment, only the strongest and most active men were selected for the "Grenadier" company.



With lighted rope fuse in one hand and his grenade in the other, the Grenadiers of the early eighteenth century formed the élite company of the regiments in time of war. Their coats in 1700 were full skirted with enormous cuffs and facings of the regimental color. Their equipment was a musket, or fusil, slung over the shoulder, a sword, and cartridge box large enough to hold the grenades which were hurled at the enemy. A modified hand grenade was used in the Russian-Japanese War and is also used in the trench fighting of to-day.

In Tangiers, against the Barbary Pirates, Dumbarton's Scots saw some fierce fighting. At one time the



Moorish army over 1400 strong was besieging their stronghold and in the early morning the British troops suddenly made a bold sortie on the enemy. With their hand-grenades, Dumbarton's Grenadiers speedily carried the first trench, proving that a valiant Scot more than matched a dusky son of Africa.

The last battle fought on English soil in 1585 was at Sedgemoor, and there the Scots aided King James II to stamp out the Duke of Monmouth's rebellion. "I know those men," said the Duke, on seeing them advancing against his forces. "They will fight! If I had them all would go well!" When James II was overthrown by William of Orange, the regiment remained loyal to their deposed sovereign, Colonel Dumbarton joining the Stuart king in his flight to France. The loyal regiment refused to be shipped to Holland at the command of King William, whom they considered a "Dutch usurper," and they set out for Scotland, only to be overtaken and brought back as deserters. They were tried for mutiny at drumhead court martial and found guilty. King William, who frankly admired their loyalty to the house of Stuart, pardoned them as a regiment, but in the interest of discipline dismissed some of their officers.

Again, in the Netherlands, the great battleground of Europe, they fought in King William's army against their old-time comrades, the French. At the battle of

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Steenkerke in 1692, they overthrew four battalions of the French in succession, losing however their brave colonel, Sir Robert Douglas, as he was rescuing one of their flags in the action. Under the great Marlborough, they had their share in the victories of Blenheim, Ramillies, Oudenarde and Malplaquet. It was from a church steeple at Oudenarde that the exile James II sadly watched these same Scots that fought so loyally for him at Sedgemoor defeat the French forces. In the middle of the next century, the two battalions that had always formed the regiment were separated—for a time the first battalion was at Fontenoy, the second aided in putting down the rebellion of "Bonnie Prince Charlie," the young Pretender, at Culloden in Scotland. Side by side with their fellow countrymen, "The Black Watch" and "Fraser's Highlanders," they fought at Quiberon Bay and Louisburg on Cape Breton Island, for the conquest of Canada. They were also conspicuous at Ticonderoga and the storming of Havana.

During Wellington's campaigns in Spain and Portugal their regimental title was the "First Regiment of Foot" or "Royal Scots." Then followed a series of severe campaigns, down to the Iron Duke's crowning achievement at Waterloo. In the recruiting after Waterloo two new battalions were added to the regiment, and it is a striking example of the wide foreign

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service of the Royal Scots, that at this time the first battalion was engaged at Fort Niagara against the United States, the second was in India, the third under Wellington in Spain and the fourth against Napoleon's troops in Holland. The roll of Dumbarton's drums was heard in many parts of the world.

At the storming of San Sebastian they won a hard-earned victory against the most stubborn resistance. In two assaults they lost over half their number, 531 officers and men. It was this third battalion a few years later, however, that had the distinction of taking part in the victory so dear to British hearts at Waterloo. At Quatre Bras, two days prior to the great battle, their "squares" withstood and repulsed no less than seven charges of Marshal Ney's heavy French cavalry. An officer who served in the Peninsular Campaign, writing as an eye-witness of their exploits on the field of Waterloo says: "I have often seen the battalion engaged, but I must confess, on this trying day, it far excelled anything I had ever witnessed. During the scenes of carnage incident to the battle, they boldly stood confronting the charges of the French cavalry, holding their own with a valor the enemy could not vanquish." In the two days' fighting at Waterloo the Royal Scots lost 400 officers and men.

A heroism of another kind was shown by a portion



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of the regiment some years later while they were en route from Quebec to the West Indies. Their transport *Premier* ran on the rocks in a winter storm and they calmly awaited death, through a long night of blinding snow, until dawn and rescue came.

Twenty-five victories are inscribed on the colors of the Royal Scots and among them are three great struggles of the Crimean War—Alma, Inkerman and Sebastopol. At the siege of the Taku Forts, in China, in 1860, they outrivaled their French allies in discipline, if not in courage. In the Zulu War of 1884 and in the battles and skirmishes of the Boer War, the "Royal Scots" maintained the splendid traditions of their regiment on foreign soil showing the same stubborn courage and resourcefulness that won the admiration of the French kings in the Middle Ages and later of Gustavus Adolphus, the greatest soldier of his time.

### THE 3RD FOOT, "THE BUFFS," OR EAST KENT REGIMENT

The time-honored privilege of marching through the city of London with drums beating and colors flying enjoyed without let or hindrance by the "Buffs," or the Third Foot, goes back to the days of train bands of Queen Elizabeth, in whose reign the companies were organized that later became this famous regiment.

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The Holland regiment of the Foot, with their scarlet coats faced with buff, took rank as the third regiment in British line and from that day down to our time few fighting corps can show a more continuous or varied service than the brave old "Buffs."

With King William in Flanders, in Spain in 1702, and the next year with Marlborough, the Buffs took part in all the battles and great sieges; and later in the century, at Dettingen, Fontenoy, and nearer home at Culloden and Falkirk they added splendid achievements to their honor roll.

In the War of the American Revolution the Buffs were in only one campaign, that of the Carolinas in 1781. They sailed away from Charlestown harbor in December, 1782, in the fleet of 400 ships that carried the Southern Loyalists with their slaves to Jamaica. While in Jamaica they received their present regimental title of East Kent.

After several years of campaigning in Flanders, Grenada and the West Indies, they returned to England where they remained until 1807. Their next foreign service was in Portugal under General Beresford and later they were brigaded with Wellington's troops in Spain. A service of fifteen years in New South Wales and India was followed by the siege of Sebastopol, and during the campaign in China, they were active in the

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capture of the Taku Forts. One of the battalions of the Buffs was sent to the Ionian Islands, another was in Zululand in 1879, and in Egypt in 1885, these veterans of many a foreign campaign learned to respect the fighting qualities of Fuzzy Wuzzy, the savage Soudanese warrior of Kipling's famous poem.

"So 'ere's to you, Fuzzy Wuzzy, at your 'ome in the Soudan;  
You're a poor benighted 'eathen but a first-class fightin' man;  
An' 'ere's to you, Fuzzy Wuzzy, with your 'ayrick 'ead of 'air—  
You big black boundin' beggar—for you broke a British square."

### THE 2ND DRAGOONS, SCOTS GREYS

*"Glory to each and to all, and the charge they made,  
Glory to qll the three hundred, and all the Brigade."*

From the first mustering in as a regiment of "horse" organized to suppress the rebellion of the Covenanters in 1678 down to the relief of Kimberley in the Boer War, the 2nd Dragoons, or "Scots Greys" have had an unbroken record of dashing gallantry for over two hundred years and only once, at Val, did they lose their standard.

When they were returning from the famous charge at Balaklava, brave Sir Colin Campbell commanding the Highlanders rode up to their ranks and saluting them called to them with a veteran's tremulous enthusiasm,

"Greys! Gallant Greys! I am sixty-one years old

and if I were young again I should be proud to serve in your ranks!"

The six troops of horse originally constituting this regiment was raised to a corps during the reign of Charles II and called "The Royal Regiment of Scots Dragoons." Their first foreign service was in Flanders during the wars of William III and Anne where they were known by the familiar title of the "Grey Dragoons," or the "Scots Regiment of White Horses"—finally acquiring the title of the "Scots Greys," which they proudly bear to-day. At the battle of Blenheim under the Duke of Marlborough they dismounted and in their heavy "Jack" boots, stormed and took the French entrenchments. At Ramillies again under the great duke they attacked and surrounded the French "Regiment du Roi," capturing its colors and nearly the whole regiment. In commemoration of this victory the "Greys" have ever since worn the high caps of the Grenadiers.

When Scotland was united to England in 1707, the "Greys" were renamed "The Royal Regiment of North British Dragoons." At Oudenarde and Malplaquet under Marlborough, they again distinguished themselves; and at Malplaquet they drove the mail-clad cavalry of the French King from the field, although unprovided with armor themselves. For this they were



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thanked by the commander-in-chief in person. Again in Flanders, in 1742, at the battle of Dettingen in the War of the Austrian Succession, with King George II in command, they made a furious charge and captured the standard of a French cuirassier regiment, repeating the brilliant achievement of Ramillies.

Two years later at Fontenoy, they fought a battle which went against the English and their allies. In fact the Scots Greys were present in all of the engagements of the British forces on the continent of Europe during the eighteenth century. On one occasion when George II was reviewing his troops, he asked the French ambassador, who was standing near, what he thought of the Scots Greys. The ambassador made a guarded reply, whereupon King George observed that they were the best troops in the world. "Has your Majesty ever seen the French Royal Guards?" urged the ambassador. "No," replied the King dryly, "but my 'Greys' have!", recalling their dashing achievement at Dettingen.

From 1763, for a period of thirty years, they remained at home, in England and Scotland. In the general change in uniform which took place in 1768, the tall bearskin caps which they now wear replaced the cloth Grenadier cap of earlier times.

At Waterloo they covered themselves with glory. With the Inniskillings and Royal Dragoons they formed

the "Union Brigade" being posted on the left of the line of battle. When ordered to charge they galloped through the spaces between the Highland foot troops, joining with them in the battle cry of "Scotland forever." As they plunged through the ranks many of the Gordon Highlanders seized the stirrup leathers of the "Greys" and joined in the furious charge. Breaking through the smoke of battle they overthrew and captured the eagle of the French Infantry on their front. In their recklessness they dashed on and on to the French batteries, where they were almost overwhelmed by Napoleon's lancers, and in extricating themselves eight officers and eighty-nine men were killed or wounded and 164 of their beautiful gray horses were left on the field. Napoleon as he saw them charge exclaimed, "*Ces terribles chevaux gris! comme ils travaillent!*" "Those terrible gray horses! how they work!" For their gallant services in this their last battle with France, each officer and man received a silver medal, and an eagle was displayed thereafter on their guidons. They also received the jocular title of the "Bird Catchers" from their comrades-in-arms, because of their capture of one of Napoleon's eagle topped standards.

The Crimean War in 1854 saw the "Greys" again at the front, with their old companions in battle, the "Royals," "Inniskillings" and 4th and 5th Dragoons, which



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formed the Heavy Cavalry Brigade under General Scarlett. Several engagements took place during the march to Sebastopol and then came their memorable charge on the 25th of October, at Balaklava. Here as at Waterloo they pierced the Russian squadrons by their sheer weight and indomitable courage.

The gallant Three Hundred of Tennyson's stirring poem were the Scots Greys and the 2d Squadron of Iniskillings, the remainder of the Heavy Brigade coming up later.

"In the heart of the Russian hordes,  
They rode, or they stood at bay

. . . . .

Ranged like a storm or stood like a rock  
In the wave of a stormy day;  
Till suddenly shock upon shock  
Stagger'd the mass from without  
Drove it in wild disarray."

On their return home from the Crimean campaigns two of the "Greys" received the highly prized Victoria Cross from the Queen's own hand. In several of the minor wars of Great Britain, the "Greys" have kept up their well-earned reputation. In the recent Boer War they nobly did their part in the relief of Kimberley and the fierce fighting that led to the taking of Pretoria, the enemy's capital. The Russian Czar is their honorary Colonel and when he visits England he wears their uni-

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form. "Second to none" is their regimental motto, and their long honor roll of service with its brilliant instances of dashing valor have enshrined them in British hearts as first in "the gallop, the charge and the might of the fight."

### 23D FOOT, ROYAL WELSH FUSILEERS

The leek which the famous 23d Foot wear in their caps on St. David's day (March 15th) is a memorial of Welsh valor and is mentioned in Shakespeare's "Henry V." You will find it in the scene where the Welsh officer, Fluellen, comes upon his beloved King after the battle of Agincourt and recounting the achievements of little Wales in the earlier French wars, refers to this ancient badge worn in the soldiers' caps on their patron saint's day.

*Flu.* Your grandfather of famous memory, an't please your majesty, and your great-uncle, Edward the Black Prince of Wales, as I have read in the Chronicles, fought a most prave pattle here in France.

*King Henry.* They did Fluellen.

*Flu.* Your majesty says very true; if your majesties remembered of it, the Welshmen did goot service in a garden where leeks did grow, wearing leeks in their Monmouth caps; which your majesty knows, to this hour, is an honorable badge of the service; and I do believe that your majesty takes no scorn to wear the leek upon Saint Tavy's day.

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*King Henry.* I wear it for a memorable honor; For  
I am Welsh, you know, good countryman.

Of world-wide renown, the 23d Foot, or Royal Welsh Fusileers, has been a regiment actively engaged in all the wars of Great Britain, from the date of its origin in 1689. In the "cockpit" of Europe, as Flanders has been called, they fought with distinction under Marlborough in his battles there; and after a long term of service at home, the regiment took part in the battles of Dettingen and Fontenoy, and in 1759 was one of the six regiments of British foot which bore the brunt of the fighting at the memorable battle of Minden, referred to by Kipling in his ballad of the Lodge of Instruction, "The Men That Fought at Minden."

"The men that fought at Minden, they had anarchistic bombs  
Served to 'em by name of 'and-grenades;  
But they got it in the eye (Same as you will by an' by)  
When they clubbed their field parades.  
The men that fought at Minden, they 'ad buttons up an' down,  
Two-an'-twenty dozen of 'em told;  
But they didn't grouse and shirk at an hour's extry work,  
They kept them bright as gold."

In the eighteenth century, many of the general officers held the titles of command in the various regiments. In the instance of the 23d Foot their Colonel was General Sir William Howe. The outbreak of the war with the American Colonies found the regiment in Boston

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where, at Bunker Hill on that hot afternoon in June, 1775, they suffered terribly. The Grenadier Company, with those of the other regiments, took its part in storming the redoubt on the hill; while the Light Infantry wing of the regiment was led by General Howe on foot in a charge against the rail fence that partly sheltered and concealed the marksmen of Stark and Knowlton. They had advanced about fifty yards when the most destructive fire was opened on them, mowing down entire ranks in an instant. Falling back beyond the range of fire, they rallied and returned to the attack, only to be met again by as murderous a fire as at first. A second time they retreated, scathed but not dishonored, the pride of the officers and stubbornness of the men not permitting them to accept defeat. With greatly diminished lines and depressed spirits they advanced a third time, only to be repulsed again. The obstinacy of these assaults, as well as the coolness of the defense, was shown by the terrible record of losses, for of three officers and seventy men of the Grenadier Company that went into the action only five came out unhurt.

Under Generals Howe, Clinton and Cornwallis, the 23d served during the entire war, down to the surrender at Yorktown in October, 1781, being everywhere distinguished by their gallantry and heavy losses. A rest of eleven years followed and then, after several short



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campaigns in the West Indies and Holland, the regiment went to Egypt with General Abercrombie and was one of the first corps to land.

To give all of the campaigns of the 23d would be to write a history of England's battles. Their part at Albuera and in the Crimean War was similar to that of the other brave British troops. When war was declared against the Boers in the autumn of 1899, the old 23d was among the first regiments sent out to those far-off fields in South Africa where the 1st battalion, with those of the Royal Scots and Irish Fusileers, formed the 6th Brigade, and saw hard and active service in Lord Roberts' army.

A curious old custom of the 23d, and one that has given them the nickname of "The Royal Goats," and sometimes "the Nanny Goats," is that of having a goat, with garlands and a shield on its horns, led at the head of its drums. A relic of olden times also distinguishes the uniform of the 23d's officers, consisting of a bow of broad black ribbon with long ends fastened to the back of the coat collar, called a "Flash." In 1786 the officers dressed their powdered hair looped up, and it is supposed that the "Flash" was then introduced to protect the coat from the grease of the pigtail or queue then worn.



Each "Foot" regiment had a company of Grenadiers that in time of battle was taken with the same company of the other regiments and formed into a battalion. They were the selected men of the regiment and in 1775 wore tall bearskin caps with a black and white metal plate in front, long-tailed scarlet coats, turned back, or (if a "Royal" regiment), faced with blue; white vest and breeches and long black cloth or linen gaiters. Such were the famous Grenadiers when equipped for service at the time of the American Revolution.



#### NORTHUMBERLAND FUSILEERS, "FIGHTING FIFTH"

It is impossible in the space that we have allotted to Great Britain in this chapter to recount the glorious achievements of all the regiments of the English army that have a continuous history since the army's organization in 1661. Yet no record should fail to include the Northumberland Fusileers or "Fighting Fifth," a nick-

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name given them by the Duke of Wellington who constantly referred to them during the Peninsular War as his "Ever-Fighting-Never-Failing Fifth."

Their badge of St. George and the Dragon is as old as the regiment's birthyear, 1689, and on St. George's Day, the 23d of April, the stand of colors, drums and caps of every man in the corps, from the Colonel to the privates, are decorated with red and white roses in honor of England's patron saint.

The regiment's first service was to suppress Monmouth's rebellion against James II. Under William III they fought in Ireland at the Boyne and at the siege of Athlone and Limerick. At the battle of Wilhelmstahl in 1762 the regiment captured a French standard and twice as many prisoners as they had men of their own on the field. For this daring exploit they won the privilege of wearing the tall grenadier hats instead of the three-cornered ones. In those days they were jocularly known as the "Shiners" on account of their gay uniforms. Bunker Hill was a fight in which the Fusileers suffered terribly, and after serving through the first two years of the war in America they were sent to the West Indies. Their title of Northumberland Fusileers was adopted in honor of their Colonel, Earl Percy, Fifth Duke of Northumberland.

After serving in South America they were trans-

ferred to the Peninsula, where in Picton's division of Wellington's army they fought the French at Busaco, were present at the siege of Bazados and in July, 1810, entered Madrid in triumph after the defeat of Marmont at Salamanca, fully earning their glorious sobriquet. During the Indian Mutiny in 1857, with Sir Henry Havelock's small command, they fought their way through every obstacle to the relief of Lucknow, and remained after the city had been entered, until relieved by Sir Colin Campbell. In India in 1866, in Northern Afghanistan in 1878 when they were able to check the Asiatic encroachments of Russia, and in South Africa during the Boer War, the "Fighting Fifth" always have upheld their proud record, as the Ever-Fighting-Never-Failing Fifth.

#### 17TH LANCERS, "DEATH OR GLORY BOYS"

"When can their glory fade?  
O the wild charge they made!  
All the world wonder'd.  
Honor the charge they made!  
Honor the Light Brigade.  
Noble six hundred."

In the charge of the Light Brigade at Balaklava celebrated by Tennyson's stirring poem were the 4th and 11th Hussars, the 13th Light Dragoons and the 17th Lancers, the "Death or Glory Boys." Of all the gal-

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lant and picturesque light cavalry regiments in the British army the 17th Lancers are probably best known to my Boy Scout readers, because of this famous charge and the fact that their sobriquet, "Death or Glory Boys," was adopted in commemoration of General Wolfe in 1759, when Colonel Hole returned to England from Canada with the despatches describing the storming of Quebec and Wolfe's heroic leadership.

The 17th was one of the two cavalry regiments that later served in the American War from Bunker Hill in 1775 to Yorktown in 1781. At the time of their campaign in America, in fact up until 1822, the regiment was known as the 17th Light Dragoons, but in this year George IV armed them with lances and they became the 17th Lancers. In 1843 the Duke of Cambridge was the Colonel and since then they have been known as the Duke of Cambridge's Lancers.

The Death or Glory Boys served in the Crimean campaign at Alma and Inkerman; and at Balaklava. They were, as we have noted, with the glorious six hundred in the famous charge of the Light Brigade. The Russian army was pushing forward to cut off communications between Balaklava and Sebastopol. The Heavy Brigade had driven back the Russian cavalry, when Lord Cardigan received vague orders to retake some batteries the Russians were holding. History records



many exploits and stirring episodes in warfare from the battle of Marathon to Custer's fight on the Big Horn, but never was there such blind obedience to orders as the charge of the six hundred in which the Death or Glory Boys lost all but thirty-five of their fearless riders.

When Lord Cardigan, the Brigade's commander, received instructions to advance he knew "some one had blundered;" but convinced that his duty was to comply with orders determined like a brave man "to do and die." The whole Light Brigade to a man realized the terrible danger of the enterprise, each one feeling he was facing certain death.

"Theirs not to make reply,  
Theirs not to reason why,  
Theirs but to do and die.  
Into the Valley of Death  
Rode the Six Hundred."

The 17th Lancers and 13th Light Dragoons were in the front line as they rode into the Valley of Death that lay between them and their Russian adversaries, Lord Cardigan riding well in front. A few moments' trot brought them in range of the enemy's guns, but on, at a canter and gallop, they sped through a hail of round shot, shell and grape which emptied saddles and knocked over horses by scores. Quickening speed as



they neared the goal, the remnants of the gallant brigade dashed between the guns—charging impetuously at the Russian cavalry and drove their front ranks back in confusion. The few survivors of this impetuous charge were now compelled to return as best they could, and it was a miracle that any of them survived, as they were assailed, in front and flanks, by cavalry and infantry as well as fire from the Russian guns, as they charged to cut their way out of the valley. The little knots of men straggled back to the British lines and when count was taken, there were left altogether only 195 of the 678 of the whole Brigade who had charged “into the Valley of Death.” The French General Bosquet, who witnessed the charge, exclaimed: “It is magnificent but it is not war!” For the splendidly equipped Light Brigade was practically annihilated, without much service having been done to the commanding general.

The Death or Glory Boys were sent out to active service in India in the days of the Mutiny and continued in that country for some years. In the Zulu War, they took an active part at the battle of Ulundi, charging the flying Zulus at the close of the battle. The war with the Boers in South Africa several years later found the 17th Lancers in Gordon's Brigade, of French's Cavalry division, when with the 9th and 16th Lancers they saw

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hard service in the Orange Free State. When Great Britain's call to arms is sounded the 17th Lancers, we may be sure, will be among the first of the light cavalry regiments sent to the front, proudly maintaining their traditions of past achievements.



With their Polish cap, or czapka, ornamented with falling white plume, blue tunics, faced with white, blue riding breeches and hussar boots, "The Death or Glory" boys make one of the most dashing of the Light Cavalry regiments in the British Army. Their arms are long bamboo lances carrying a red and white pennon, light cavalry saber and carbine fastened to the saddle. Like the lancers of other countries they act as an effective "screen" for the infantry.

## 57TH FOOT—"THE DIE HARDS"

"Die hard, 57th! die hard!" was the rallying cry of the brave Colonel Inglis at the battle of Albuera on the 16th of May, 1811, in Wellington's Peninsular Campaign. Napoleon was then in the height of his power. He had annexed the Papal States, Holland, the coast of Germany as far as Hamburg, and now he was sending some of his ablest generals against the Iron Duke in Spain to crush him.

At Albuera the 57th Foot with the 29th and 48th Foot were pouring a steady fire into the heavy columns of the French under Marshal Soult and stubbornly defending their position on a ridge of the battlefield. Nobly the 57th answered John Inglis' call and when this veteran campaigner was struck down by the enemy's grape, the men in the line could hear him above the roar of the musketry urging them to keep up a steady fire and "die hard," as he lay in front of the regimental colors, having refused to retire to the rear. The enemy's fire was so destructive that the 57th would have been annihilated had not the Brigade of Fusileers come to their support and turned the tide of battle by a brilliant charge, a charge in which the shattered ranks of the 57th would have joined had not Marshal Beresford, the English Commander-in-Chief, exclaimed, "Stop!

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Stop the 57th! It would be a sin to let them go on." It was in this ordeal of battle that the regiment won the highly prized nickname which has distinguished them on many a subsequent field and is proudly borne to the present day.

The regiment was one of ten new ones raised and added to the army in 1756. Their first active service was in the American War of Independence, where they fought through the seven years of conflict. Shortly after the battle of Brandywine, the "light" company, as it was called (each regiment in those days having its grenadier and light infantry company) took part in the famous night attack, against "Mad Anthony" Wayne's troops at Paoli Tavern.

General Grey of the British forces, gaining intelligence of the American position, determined to attack them by surprise; with the 42d Highlanders ("The Black Watch"), 44th Regiment, and the "Light" Company of the 57th they advanced in profound silence. The orders were given that not a shot was to be fired, and only the bayonet should be used. General Grey rode with the 57th which led the column and soon came upon the American pickets who fired a volley as they made off through the woods. The moment for rapid action had now arrived, so the General gave the order to the "Light" Company to "dash on!" Without mak-



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ing a sound the men rushed forward, guided by the bivouac fires, until they reached the American camp, when with a ringing cheer they charged. The surprise was complete; for, strange to say, the Americans had not been alarmed by the firing of their pickets. The British bayonets played terrible havoc among the regiments of Wayne's command. In a few moments 460 Americans were killed, the camp with four guns, wagon loads of stores and seventy men were captured, with a loss of but twenty killed and wounded on the British side.

In American history this is known as the Massacre at Paoli; and, it is said, so embittered the American troops that they vowed they would give no quarter on any field to the "Light" Company that led the charge. In order that the other "Light" companies, who had not taken part in the enterprise should not suffer, the men of the 57th dyed their plumes red and continued to wear them through the war.

In later times the regiment received severe losses in campaigns in which they took part. At the battle of Inkerman in the Crimean War, Captain Stanley who was in command, seeing that energetic action was needed, shouted to his men, "Die Hard! Remember Albuera!" which had the desired effect, for with a cheer they followed him in a charge upon the Russians. In the desperate hand-to-hand fight that followed, their fearless





The uniform of the 57th or "Die Hards" was that of nearly all of the Line "Foot" regiments, that fought Wellington's battles in the Spanish Peninsula. Their short-tailed scarlet coats had collars, cuffs and facings of different colors, that of the 57th being white. They wore caps of black felt, adorned with a woolen plume of scarlet and white, brass plate and white cord festoon and tassel, and long trousers of dark gray or blue, with gray cloth gaiters. Their arm was the flintlock known as the "Brown Bess."

Captain Stanley was killed, but not until after he had slain ten of the enemy with his sword.

In other battles of this war in the Crimean Campaign the 57th saw hard service and had more than one Victoria Cross awarded to its members for acts of gallantry. In later times it saw hard fighting all through the Zulu War of 1879—and twelve years later was sent to India

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where it was stationed at the beginning of the Boer War in 1897.

The regiment is to-day known as the First Battalion of the Middlesex Regiment, this new title received in 1881, when all of the British Line Regiments were distinguished by territorial divisions.

### FOUR OTHER BRITISH REGIMENTS

It is impossible in this chapter to do justice to the glories of all the British regiments of valor and achievement, yet in the pages that remain we must make brief mention of the Royal Horse Artillery, The Rifle Brigade, the Royal Marines, and the 66th Foot.

The Royal Horse Artillery takes precedence of all troops in the British Army having a post of honor on the right of the line. There are six guns to a battery in war and four in peace drawn by six-horse teams. All the gunners, save two, who ride on the limbers, are mounted as cavalry on magnificent chestnut, bay and brown horses.

The Rifle Brigade, some of my readers will remember, had a detachment with Admiral Nelson's squadron at Copenhagen. They were selected at first as a picked experimental corps of sharpshooters. They were the first to discard the old flintlock musket, "Brown Bess"

for a new invention, the seven-grooved rifle specially designed for their experimental use. Their regimental title was the Rifle Corps and, as the old 95th, fought in Germany, America, Spain, and Waterloo. The Rifle Corps were frequently used with good effect as battery sharpshooters and sat with the gunners to pick off guerillas in ambush. In the Crimean campaign they were known as the Rifle Brigade and in 1862 were given the new regimental title of "Prince Consort's Own." The uniform of the Rifle Brigade is distinctive rifle green with black velvet facings.

The Royal Marines claim descent from the old 3d or Maritime Regiment, which in 1684 was probably uniformed in yellow lined with red; the first corps of infantry that was devoted entirely to sea service. The Royal Marines share with the "Buffs" the privilege of marching through "London Town" with their flags uncased and their drums beating. From 1698 to 1755 there were various Marine regiments raised, but had no permanent history. When the war broke out in 1755 fifty companies of Marines were raised and sent to the naval ports at Plymouth, Portsmouth, and Chatham. These regiments were never disbanded and since then the Marines have taken part in every important naval action and in many land engagements. The title

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"Royal" was given them in 1802 and for their Crimean service they were renamed by Her Majesty, the "Royal Marine Light Infantry."

The Frenchmen who fought against the Marines at Belle Isle in 1761 called them "The Little Grenadiers" because the Marines then wore the fusileer cap. Their valor at Belle Isle won for them the laurel wreath which now encircles the "Globe" on their colors.

The uniform of the Marines at the present time is much like that of the line regiments, though in 1800 it was red with white facings, which later became the blue facings of "Royal" regiments.

### THE 66TH FOOT

The 2d Battalion Royal Berkshire Regiment, was called formerly the 66th Foot, and forming part of the garrison at St. Helena was the guard of honor at Napoleon's funeral. In the Afghan War of 1880, where they formed part of the Kandahar Field Force, they fought at Maiwand on the 27th of July, standing to the last man against the whole Afghan Army—one of the most sublime incidents of heroism in the annals of warfare.

### THE HIGHLAND REGIMENTS

The Scots of the six Highland regiments inherit from their forebears rugged constitutions and powers of



endurance which come from generations of life in the open and long hunting expeditions on foot in the mountains and across the moors. This hardy fighting stock, we need not say, has made some of the finest corps in the British Army with long service records in all parts of the world.

All save one regiment, the Highland Light Infantry, wear the national kilt and the ostrich feather bonnet. The Royal or 42d Highlanders, made up of the old 42d and 73d, called "The Black Watch," heads the list; followed by the "Seaforths," composed of the old 72d and 78th, once called the "Regiment of the Macraes"; the "Cameron," the 79th Foot, known where the Gaelic tongue is spoken as the "Cia-mar-tha's" (How-do-you-do's); the "Gordons," composed of the 75th and 92d, sometimes playfully called the "Gay Gordons"; and the "Argyll and Sutherlands," composed of the 91st and 93rd, known as the "Thin Red Line of Balaclava."

THE 42D ROYAL HIGHLANDERS, "THE BLACK WATCH"

*"Nemo me impune lacessit."*

Regimental motto.

When the Jacobites finally tired of their plots to involve Scotland in civil war, they still had done so much mischief among the warlike clans that the Crown in 1729 organized the Independent Companies of the



Black Watch to keep them in order and prevent border depredations. These companies, or patrols, included all the loyal clans of Campbell, Grant and Munro and they wore a clan tartan of black, blue and green which gave rise to the name "Black Watch." In addition to the muskets served out to them, they were permitted to retain their Highland broadsword, pistols and dirk, the sergeants carrying the trusty Lochaber axe.

The Black Watch got a new tartan in 1739 which is still worn and known as the "tartan of '42." At this time they became the 42d Regiment and as Lord Crawford, their new Colonel, was a Lowlander and had no tartan, they were obliged to invent this new one.

In 1743, the King, who desired to reinforce the English allies in Flanders, secretly ordered Lord Sempill, then in command of the Black Watch, to bring the regiment to England on the pretext that he wished to see a Highland fighting corps. When the regiment reached London the King was in Hanover, and incensed by the report spread among them by Jacobite agents, to the effect that they were to be sent to the West Indies, they started back home. The King's troops forced them to return and their corporals who had led the mutiny were executed in the Tower. Some of the regiment were drafted into other corps, but the others were sent to campaign in Flanders.

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At Fontenoy, "when all seemed lost," the 42d attacked the French near Veson, where the Dauphin's battalions were posted. Though the enemy was strongly entrenched, the Highlanders drove them out in a hand-to-hand contest with sword, pistol and dirk. In another part of the field the Black Watch was brigaded with the slower Dutch whom they left behind in a fierce charge which they made on the French Guards. The support which they gave the allies and their own troops would have been enough to turn the tide of battle had not the reserves, the famous Irish Brigade, been ordered on the French firing line. The allies were scarcely able to reform their lines, so weary were they with fighting, yet they waited for the Irish with inflexible front. In the terrible fight at close range which followed the Irish Brigade won the day, but the gallantry of the Highlanders in their first foreign battle was applauded by their comrades in arms and celebrated at home.

At the outbreak of the hostilities in Canada in 1756, between the French and the English, they were landed in New York and proceeding up the Hudson remained near Albany, receiving instructions in bush-fighting and infantry drill until the spring of 1758, when they joined Major Abercrombie in his expedition against Fort Ticonderoga. The English Grenadier companies

were unable to force their way to the fort, but the 42d cut away the abattis with their broadswords, and having no scaling ladder they tried to mount the barricade by standing on each other's shoulders. The French were able defenders and withstood the desperate charge of the Highlanders until General Abercrombie ordered the English troops withdrawn. It was about this time that the Black Watch received the royal warrant, changing their name to the "Royal Highland Regiment."

Later they participated in the capture of Ticonderoga, the final conquest of Canada, the fall of Havana in the Spanish War of 1762; and in July, 1767, the regiment having been reduced to a mere skeleton, returned home to recruit. The Royal Highlanders returned to America in 1776 to fight against the Colonial troops who had served with them at Ticonderoga and in Canada. They were conspicuous in many battles of the War of Independence and showed great endurance and bravery at the storming of Fort Washington in November.

One of the distinctive badges of the Highlanders is the vulture plume, or red hackle, a reward given them for their gallantry in retaking a battery which the French in the Holland Wars had captured from their brigade. The colors were presented to the regiment in 1802, bearing honors won in the Egyptian campaign

against the French, the symbolic device being the Sphinx with the word "Egypt"; the word "Peninsula" being added later for their exploits in Portugal, Spain and the south of France.

At Waterloo they were in Picton's division. In the preliminary engagement at Quatre Bras they were marching across the plowed field when the French Lancers charged upon them before they could make a square. In spite of this disadvantage they fought back to back and finally routed their antagonists.

The Royal Highlanders served in the Crimean War and displayed their traditional valor at Sebastopol. In 1858 they were at the siege and capture of Lucknow and three years later in recognition of their services the ancient name of the "Black Watch" was restored to them. They bore the brunt of the fighting in the early portion of the battle of Tel-el-Kebir, storming the trenches in the early morning of September, 1882, putting Arabi Pasha's Egyptians to flight. With General Graham they fought the Nubians at El Teb. In 1884 they won honors in the Nile campaign and later served in India from 1895 until the opening of the Boer War, where they served under General Wauchope, a campaign in which the ranks of the dauntless Highlanders were greatly depleted. The Regimental motto, *Nemo me impune lacessit*, "No one provokes me with impunity," de-



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scribes in a compact way the stubborn qualities of this famous fighting corps, who fought with such reckless gallantry that the French at one time cherished the myth, that these "Sauvages d'Ecosse" were wild men who roamed their native hills dressed in a sheepskin baldric.

### HIGHLAND LIGHT INFANTRY—THE 71ST

The Highland Light Infantry, the only Scots regiment which does not wear the national kilt and plaid, wears instead a distinctive hat and plaid trousers. Their most distinguished service was in India in 1781, under Sir Eyre Coote, where this famous commander with an army of 8000 men defeated after eight hours of severe fighting the overwhelming host of Ali, which military historians estimate was about 50,000 horsemen and 100,000 foot soldiers. The Highland Light Infantry occupied the right of the battle line and above the din of the fight their pipers could be heard playing the martial music of the clans. In celebration of this splendid victory their commander presented the regiment with a set of silver pipes.

### THE SEAFORTH HIGHLANDERS, 72D AND 78TH

The Seaforth Highlanders saw hard service in Lord Cornwallis' campaigns in India against Tippo Sahib, in 1790-91. There was a period in which the Highland



dress of the Seaforths was discontinued. In 1823, however, in recognition of their splendid discipline and fighting efficiency, their national dress was restored to them. The Seaforths were in service in the Crimea in 1855 and two years later aided in the suppression of the Indian Mutiny. They were with Kitchener in his Nile campaigns and greatly distinguished themselves at the battle of Omdurman.

#### 79TH—THE CAMERON HIGHLANDERS

In the Gaelic the Camerons were known as the "How-do-you-do's," *Cia-mar-tha's* (pronounced "Kamartha's"), the salutation, like Frederick the Great's morning greeting to his troops, always given them by their founder, as most of the men were his kinsmen. Their uniform is scarlet with blue facings and their device is the Imperial Crown and Thistle and the Sphinx superscribed Egypt, recording the glories of their campaign in Egypt, in 1882, at Tel-el-Kebir and the Nile campaigns.

The Cameron Highlanders, the old 79th, was organized in 1793 by Alan Cameron of Erroch and after two brief campaigns in Holland and Spain went with Abercrombie to Egypt. They were present at the siege of Alexandria and the advance on Cairo. In the battles on the Spanish Peninsula in 1811-1814 they were pitted

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against Napoleon's veterans and at Fuentes d'Ornoro lost their gallant colonel in a desperate fight with the Imperial Guard.

With the 28th and 32d Foot they were the first to advance from Brussels on the morning of the 16th of June and were hotly engaged at Quatre Bras and Waterloo. With other Highland regiments they had their share in the severe Crimean campaigns. They marched to the relief of Lucknow with Sir Colin Campbell and in 1873 Queen Victoria bestowed upon them the title, "Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders." Since that time they have been active in nearly all of Great Britain's wars in Afghanistan and South Africa.

### THE 92D—THE GAY GORDONS

In the regiment of the Gordon Highlanders are the old 75th Foot and the 92d Foot. The 75th, called the Strada Reale Highlanders, were made a Highland regiment while at Malta, which has given rise to the riddle, "What is the difference between the 92d and the 75th?" The answer, "The one are real Highlanders, the other Real(e) Highlanders."

The first battalion of the Gordon Highlanders served under Lord Cornwallis in India in 1790 and did not return to England until 1806. Their regimental badge, the "Royal Tiger," is in recognition of this long service.

In 1881 when all the British regiments were given territorial titles the 75th became the Senior Battalion of the Gay Gordons, as they were playfully called. However, it is around the old 92d, the 2d Battalion, that the greatest traditions of the regiment have gathered.

They were with Wellington in his Peninsular campaign in 1810 and at Waterloo they were brigaded with the "Royal Scots" and "The Black Watch." In the famous charge at Waterloo they clung to the stirrup leathers of the Scots Greys as they dashed against the French, joining in the battle cry, "Scotland Forever."

At Balaclava, while brigaded with two Turkish battalions, the Gordons, a "thin red streak topped with a line of steel," withstood unsupported the desperate onslaught of the Russian horsemen, the Sultan's troops in terror having fired a straggling volley and scattered to cover. The Gordons, unmindful of this defection of the Turks, stood waiting the onrushing cavalrymen until they were within a few hundred yards of the line. Then the front rank was given the order to kneel and fire. Only a few of the Russian vanguard fell from their saddles. On the terrible horsemen came, until they were within range. This was the crucial moment, for the men in the rear rank fired over the heads of their kneeling comrades a volley that staggered the Russian horde and repulsed them. Rallying their men, the brave Rus-

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sian officers wheeled their shattered columns in another attempt to turn the right of the Highland regiment. At this moment the Grenadiers under Ross came to their rescue and fired such a death-dealing volley that the Russians wheeled about in confusion and panic to find the shelter of their batteries. "Bravo, Highlanders!" "Well done, 93d!" were the admiring shouts of their rescuers as the Russians were seen riding back to their supporting line.

In Afghanistan the Gordons won lasting renown with Lord Roberts in his famous march to Kandahar. One of the most sublime and thrilling incidents in the foreign service of the Gordons and the Indian campaign occurred in August, 1897, on the Dargai Heights, where the warlike tribe of Afridis had taken up a strong position. First the Gurkhas, native troops, were repulsed by a withering fire; then the Derbys and the Dorsets tried to rush the first entrenchments, but of no avail. At last the 1st Gordon Highlanders drew up their line for the perilous charge. Headed by their pipers, and led by Lieut.-Colonel Mathias they dashed through the hail of bullets and in forty minutes placed their standard on the heights, leaving three officers and thirty men killed and wounded on the way.

The conduct of the pipers who led the charge was magnificent. Their lance corporal fell with a gaping wound



in his chest, but Piper Findlater, after being shot in both feet, propped himself against a boulder, where the firing was the heaviest, and played the martial music of the clans to encourage the brave Highlanders as they stormed up the hill in the face of the murderous fusillade. Piper Findlater became a national hero; and when he was able to be invalided home, he received the Victoria Cross from his grateful sovereign and a pension for life, which made him secure and happy in his old home among the hills of his native Aberdeenshire.

Another hero on the honor roll of the Gordons is Captain Towse, who was sent during the Boer War to defend Mount Theba with a small squad of twelve men. The Boer detachment of ten times the number crept within a hundred paces of the English position before they were discovered; then they dashed forward, calling to Captain Towse to surrender. As he was rallying his men a steel-coated bullet passed through both his eyes at the moment of victory. Queen Victoria gave him a special audience on his return and pinned the Victoria Cross on his uniform with her own hands, appointing him at the same time Sergeant-at-Arms, an office in which he remained during the late King Edward's lifetime, until he was made one of the Honorable Corps of Gentlemen-at-Arms.



## ARGYLL AND SUTHERLAND HIGHLANDERS, 91ST AND 93D

At Sterling Castle some hundred and twenty years ago the 98th Highlanders was raised, the officers of which were mainly Campbells or kinsmen. They were shortly after sent to South Africa and helped to capture Cape Town, remaining there until 1802, when they joined Wellington on the Peninsula. The 98th was one of the reserve corps at Waterloo and marched to Paris after the battle, remaining in France until 1818.

Like the Seaforths they have not always retained the kilt and the tartan. In 1809 they wore the uniform of a line regiment. Fifty years later, however, the uniform was partly restored, but the full Highland costume was not permitted until their affiliation with the Sutherland Highlanders in 1881. At the time of Princess Louise's wedding their regimental title became Princess Louise's Argyll and Sutherland and their badge was the Duke of Argyll's crest and motto. This regiment is famous as the "Thin Red Line at Balaclava" and they have seen active service in all the Napoleonic Wars in the Peninsula and on the Continent, in three South African campaigns and in India during the Mutiny. They have been stationed in the West Indies, Ceylon, China, and St. Helena, and twice have been shipwrecked. In

the loss of the *Birkenhead* forty-three veteran Highlanders perished.

In 1894 they were quartered in Edinburgh and celebrated there the one hundredth anniversary of their founding. In the Boer War of 1899-1900 battalions of the Black Watch, Gordons, Seaforths, and Argyles were brigaded under the command of General Hector MacDonald and in Lord Roberts' army took part in many of the disastrous skirmishes and irregular fighting of that war.

## CHAPTER III

### REGIMENTAL GLORIES OF NAPOLEON AND FRANCE

THE expressive word "Martinet" had its origin in the days of Louis XIV when that master of military organization, Louvois, the war minister, was the first to make a real army for France. General Martinet, his famous inspector of troops, wrought wonders out of the strangely uniformed and discordant partisan soldiers. In contrast to Napoleon's time when the armies and regiments of France won their highest renown, the King's Army, as it was called up to 1789, was aristocratic and officered only by men of noble birth. In the wars preceding the Revolution there were, however, many bodies of troops who won fame on many battle fields.

### THE REGIMENT OF PICARDY

The first to receive the title of "regiment" were the troops of Picardy in which Sault, Napoleon's famous Marshal in the army of 1804, was at one time a corporal. In 1567 the troops of Piedmont and all the others were definitely called "regiments." They were usually named after the several provinces, and in 1597, the

Picardy, Navarre, and Piedmont regiments were known as the "old corps," models for all others on account of their discipline and bravery. There was no uniformity in military dress in those days and the soldiers presented an odd appearance, some in blue coats, some in white, with breeches and stockings of various hues.

In the seventeen companies of each battalion the foot officers carried espontoons ten feet long. While one battalion was armed with pikes the other was equipped with muskets. In August, 1644, in a furious three days' battle against the Bavarians, the regiment of Picardy became justly famous. Fribourg-en-Brisgau, lying at the foot of the Black Mountains, was the scene of a veritable battle of giants; with an army of 20,000 men, and thirty-seven pieces of small artillery, the Grand Condé and Turenne, two of Louis XIV's greatest marshals, determined to assault the almost impregnable position.

It was six o'clock in the evening when Condé ordered the attack. "Charge, Picardy!", cried the Count d'Espenan, their colonel, as he pointed with his sword toward the entrenched enemy. With their accustomed ardor the regiment obeyed. Seizing the flag one of the officers led them on, only to fall; but the example served and the regiment soon possessed the first line of defense.

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A second line remained, but here the fire was so murderous they were forced to retire. Their flag of Picardy, held aloft by an ensign scarcely twelve years old, was given to a sergeant as the boy fell mortally wounded. Night stopped the combat, which was renewed the next day in another quarter; the Bavarians having abandoned their entrenchments in the interval to take a new position. The French marshal at this crisis joined the forces and the third day's action began at daybreak. A thousand musketeers opened the battle, but being outflanked and their brave leader mortally wounded they were obliged to retreat. This movement, which was on the point of causing disorder in the French ranks serious enough to disconcert Condé's plans, was checked by his timely appearance. Seven times his infantry returned to the charge when at last the Marshal led them himself with the greatest intrepidity. Twenty of his staff officers and all of his aides fell at Condé's side, three horses were shot under him, his cuirass was repeatedly hit and his scabbard shattered by musket balls.

Finally enraged at the stubbornness of the enemy, Condé hurled his Marshal's baton over the enemy's entrenchments, which caused the French infantry instantly to crowd forward to regain it. All of the regiments were engaged in turn, suffering great loss in their attempts. At length, Picardy advanced to the



attack. One of the captains in trying to plant the regimental standard on the parapet fell back into the ditch, a ball in his chest. The Bavarians endeavored to capture the standard, but were repulsed by the Picardy pikemen. The determined stand of their foe convinced Condé that he must cut off their communications. His renewed onslaught caused them to seek safety in the mountains, abandoning part of their artillery, baggage and seventy-three standards.

This three days' conflict, while not a decisive one, called forth prodigies of valor on the part of the French infantry regiments, of which Picardy led. The regiment fought in all of the wars of the monarchy up to its abolition in 1789, when, with all of the other regiments, Picardy was joined to the volunteers in the creation of the Republican Demi-Brigades.

#### MOUSQUETAIRES OF KING AND CARDINAL

"The Three Musketeers" of Dumas and his other great romances of the old régime have celebrated the daring exploits of the companies of the King's Mousquetaires, that élite corps of the Maison du Roi. In the ranks of the Mousquetaires were gentlemen cavaliers with formidable curled mustaches, long flowing locks and brilliant uniforms, the glory and pride of the old monarchy of France. Composed of two companies,

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they were called the *Mousquetaires Gris*, when they rode gray horses, and the *Mousquetaires Noir*, when their horses were black.

Their tabards, or cloaks, were of royal blue embroidered with gold or silver. Each company was formed of mounted and foot troops and served as the King's escort on his journeys or campaigns. In the reign of Louis XIII a third company was created as a special guard to Cardinal Richelieu, his great prime minister. These guards were distinguished by their scarlet tabards ornamented with crosses of silver. Between the King's and Cardinal's Mousquetaires a great feeling of rivalry existed, a rivalry that frequently caused duels which the Cardinal vigorously suppressed by his famous edict against dueling.

There is a fascinating legend connected with the history of a small button worn by the immediate bodyguard of Mousquetaires who surrounded the Cardinal. This militant churchman and astute politician was constantly in danger of being killed or poisoned by spies who made their way into the audience-room on some pretext or other. On one occasion a beautiful woman, apparently one of the attendant ladies of the Court, passed the Cardinal and in making obeisance one of the buttons in her bodice caught in Richelieu's vestments. To the amazement of the bystanders the accident revealed the

fact that the woman was carrying a poisoned stiletto. After that time a facsimile of this button became one of the distinctive badges of the Mousquetaires.

The King's Mousquetaires were famous on many battlefields. At Valenciennes, in 1677, they excited the admiration of the whole army in leading an assault on foot as simple infantrymen. In 1692, at Steenkerke, both black and gray Mousquetaires led a brilliant cavalry charge against the English guards of King William III. It was said at the time that the Maison du Roi of France and the English guards were the finest troops in the world and their achievement on this field of battle was worthy of them.

Although surprised at daybreak at Steenkerke by the English forces, the French were soon rallied by their marshal, the Duke of Luxembourg. The battle soon grew to colossal proportions. In a great plain surrounded by verdant hills and woods, the army was drawn up and with shouts of "Vive le Roi" the cavalry of the Maison du Roi advanced to the charge, each company vieing with the others in acts of valor. In this first charge the French were for a time successful, but as the English were reënforced and rallied, the French cavalry were pressed back. Their infantry, headed by the famous "Regiment of Champagne," were seen through the smoke of battle, advancing rapidly, crying out as

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they passed the shattered ranks of the cavalry, "Courage, Mousquetaires! Courage!" The charge was irresistible, the ranks of the English guards were broken, and forced to retire from the field, beaten on all sides. It was a battle of princes. The English commanded by their King William of Orange, and leading the French the Princes, Louis of Bourbon, Conti, and the Duke of Vendome and Duke of Chartres. The companies of Mousquetaires remained part of the household troops of the French monarchs for many years later. Those of the Cardinal, however, were incorporated with other troops after the death of Cardinal Mazarin, Richelieu's successor.

"Quentin Durward," which describes the adventures of a youth who goes to France to be an archer in the Scots Guard in the time of Louis XI, gives a vivid picture of life in the Garde du Corps du Roi to which Louis and Francis I added two Scotch companies. This regiment was originally formed from the Scots who helped the French in the Hundred Years' War. In 1634 the Scots companies were incorporated in Hepburn's Scots which we have described under the Royal Scots. Later the Garde du Corps du Roi was recruited mainly from Frenchmen of Scotch descent.



## GARDES-FRANÇAISE

The Gardes-Française were the pride and glory of the old French Army and always took the right of the line in that organization. After the capture of Havre in 1558, Charles IX and his mother Queen Catherine de Medici, organized the regiment under the name of the Gardes du Roi. After they had been in garrison in Picardy for a time they were recalled to Paris, reduced to two companies, attached to the Royal household (Maison du Roi) and given their distinctive title of Gardes-Françaises. Frequently augmented in numbers by succeeding monarchs, they contained at the time of the French victory at Fontenoy in 1745, thirty-six companies, three of which were Grenadiers, wearing bear-skin hats. With their silk flags, blue and red uniforms and the white national cockade in their hats, the regiment fought in many of the nation's wars, down to the great revolution of 1789. Their exhibition of politeness on the battle-field of Fontenoy, when one of the lieutenants stepped in front of the ranks and invited the English to open the battle, has been related in the story of the English Guards. The effect of the English fire was terrible, for nineteen of the "Gardes" officers and 320 men were killed and wounded in the first discharge of musketry that followed, the first rank almost entirely





One of the first regiments of the French Army to be given a complete uniform by Louis XIV was the "Garde - Française." They wore bright blue coats, with wide cuffs and skirt facings of scarlet and long white gaiters. Their vests and breeches were scarlet and their arms were a sword and flint-lock musket. Their belts were of yellow leather. With white braid buttonholes that emphasized the national colors of red, white and blue, this uniform was naturally very conspicuous on the battle-field.

disappearing. As the English advanced, the Gardes with decimated ranks were ordered to retreat.\* The brave men with rage in their hearts slowly retired, later to rally for the final victory of the French.

Regiment after regiment was ordered by Marshal

Saxe, their commander, to repulse the charges of the English. The losses on both sides were enormous, and the victory gained only when the choicest squadrons of the King's household troops were sent into the conflict late in the day, by Louis XV, who was on the field of battle.

### THE DEMI-BRIGADES

When the Bastile was stormed and taken in July, 1789, eight hundred of the French Guards were in the assaulting force. As the Revolution progressed the greater part of the regiment was incorporated in the National Guard commanded by Lafayette. The National Convention, which followed the fallen monarchy, decided in 1793 to bring order out of the chaos existing on every hand. They reorganized the army needed in the defense of the new republic by combining into 165 Demi-Brigades the regiments of the old monarchy with the new ones composed of volunteers.

This reorganization proved favorable to discipline as all the soldiers were animated by the same spirit and desire for Liberty and Equality. When General Bonaparte was given command of the army of Italy, it contained fourteen of these Demi-Brigades. On his arrival at the scene of action the young General, then twenty-six, addressed them in stirring language, saying: "Sol-

diers! You are naked and ill fed; the Republic owes you much and can give you nothing! The patience and courage you have shown in the midst of these rocks are admirable. But this gains you no renown; no glory results from your endurance. I am come to lead you into the most fertile plains in the world! Rich provinces and great cities will be in your power; there you will find honor, glory and wealth. Soldiers of Italy! Will you be wanting in courage or perseverance?"

Receiving his words with enthusiastic acclamations, these men were soon molded into the devoted army with which he fought the campaign that astonished the world. Overturning all accepted rules of warfare by the originality of his methods, Napoleon made good his promise and led his Demi-Brigades to victory after victory.

At Montenotte, the opening battle of the campaign, the 32d Demi-Brigade were stationed in a pass at Monteleghino, where they stopped the progress of the Austrian Army. With only 1500 men the brave Colonel Rampon held his post. Calling upon his men to swear either to defend their position or die to the last man, they cried as with one voice, "We will," and although their ammunition soon gave out, they held on all through the April night, resisting stubbornly the repeated attacks of the enemy.

With the morning came Bonaparte and reënforcements. An impetuous charge drove off the enemy, which Augereau and Massena with other Demi-Brigades took in the flank and rear. The defeat of the Austrians was complete, five of their flags, five cannon and two thousand prisoners were the trophies of this first battle and victory of the army of Italy. At Rivoli where Napoleon with 16,000 men was almost surrounded by Wurmser with 40,000 Austrians, the 32d Demi-Brigade performed prodigies of valor. Ordered to the left to support two Demi-Brigades which had given way, the intrepid Massena advanced at the head of the 32d, rallied behind him the broken troops and overthrew all before him. At Arcola where Bonaparte on foot, flag in hand, in the face of a galling fire, crossed the bridge, and at Lodi, his army of Demi-Brigades followed his lead to death or victory. Their conquests were celebrated on their banners as well as in the words of praise they had won from "the little corporal," as they affectionately called the conqueror, who seemed never to know defeat. To the 32d he had said, "I was tranquil, the brave Thirty-second was there"; to the 18th, "Brave eighteenth, I know you!"; "The Twenty-fifth is covered with glory"; "The terrible Fifty-seventh, that nothing stops."

Such praise as this, to men even victorious under his



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leadership, made Napoleon Bonaparte fairly worshiped by his troops. In Egypt, after campaigns in Italy, they became the trained veterans that formed the larger part of the greatest fighting force that the world had ever seen.



With large black felt hats that dripped in the rain like gutter spouts, long tailed blue coats with red cuffs, tight breeches and long gaiters, these troops that composed the infantry of the armies of the Sambre and Meuse, Rhine, Italy, and Egypt, often ragged and poorly fed, won the victories of the First Republic under Bonaparte, Massena, Moreau, Hoche, and other great soldiers of their time.



Upon being elevated to the Consulship in 1803, Napoleon completely reorganized the army. Disbanding or dividing the Demi-Brigades into numbered regiments and allotting them to divisions and corps, he placed over them officers tried and proved by the fire of many battles, rather than by birth or influence, as had been the case in the days of the monarchy. It has been said that "every soldier carried a marshal's baton in his knapsack," meaning that the man of lowest rank could advance by merit to the highest command. This was literally true of many of the marshals and generals of Napoleon's "Grand Armée."

#### THE HUSSARS

Among the cavalry regiments that had belonged to the old army were several regiments of Hussars, that were retained in the newly organized forces of the Republic. Formerly they had been known by the names of their colonels—Bercheny, Chamborant, Esterhazy, Lauzun, and others. On many fields they had shown their prowess, continually proving their efficiency as the "eyes of the army," always in advance, exploring the country to ascertain the enemy's position. Protecting convoys of provisions or scouting, their duties were numerous and exacting, and, always, by their intrepid charges on the flank or rear of their adversaries, the

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hardy Hussars of the Republic were a great factor in the wars of the nation.

As it takes time to make a good cavalryman many of the troopers were of middle age and are described by a French writer as the "old soldiers of the ancient Royal Hussars, their skins tanned by the exposure and the fatigue of their several campaigns. On each side of their face hung long braids of hair with a lead weight at the ends; many wore large hoop earrings of gold. Their jackets and cloaks of red, green, orange, or maroon with breeches of light blue or crimson had seen hard usage and were stained by the weather and many a bivouac fire; their cone-shaped hats or shakos, wound around with a long hanging band of cloth called a 'flame,' but their dented and battered arms were bright and keen."

Such were the Hussars of the Republic and of the First Empire, who had many noted commanders; among whom were Murat, Stengel, Lasalle and Kellerman. Stengel was called by Napoleon, a true "advance post general." Lasalle, "the truest type of the French Hussars," was possessed of military talents and valor that placed him at the head of all of Napoleon's generals of Light Cavalry.

Among the many exploits told of the Hussars was one showing real courage on the part of three of their num-

ber, who volunteered to get a despatch through the Austrian Army at Metz in 1793. To cut through the enemy's lines meant almost certain death. Riding at a gallop in the midst of a shower of bullets two of them fell shot to death; the third, Bastoul by name, was wounded, but rode at a group of Austrians whom he fought single handed and managed to escape. Arriving at Metz he fell from his saddle, though he delivered the despatch into the French general's hand as he expired.

On the plateau of Rivoli, one of the great battles in the Italian campaign, 200 of the 1st Hussars conducted by Lasalle made a flank attack and drove the disordered Austrians from the field. Early in the morning of January 21, 1795, a squadron of the 8th Hussars rode across the ice to a Dutch fleet in the Texel, where their commander, General Lahure, received the surrender of the astonished mariners. The novel honor of capturing a fleet with cavalry belongs only to the Hussars.

At Austerlitz, Jena, Eylau, and Moscow in the terrible campaign of 1812 the Hussars were part of the Grande Armée, and at Waterloo in 1815 joined in the charges against the English squares. In the later wars, in Africa and the Crimea, they fought nobly. In Napoleon III's victory at Solferino and in Mexico in Marshal Bazaine's Army, the Hussars were part of the

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forces fighting for the glories of France. In 1870 the 1st Hussars won praise even from the Prussian King, who exclaimed on seeing the heroism with which they charged, "The brave men!"

### GRENADIERS OF THE IMPERIAL GUARD

His "Grumblers" was one of the many terms that Napoleon applied to the Grenadiers of the Imperial Guard, better known as the "Old Guard," for in rain or sunshine, snow or hail, they grumbled, but always followed wherever he commanded or led. A more devoted body of fighting men has never existed. From the day when they dubbed Napoleon "the little corporal," after the battle of Lodi in 1796, to their proud defiance at Waterloo, they occupied the choicest and most favored position in the vast armies of the consulate and empire.

At the battle of Marengo when the battle had gone against Napoleon on every side the order was given to retreat and rally around his Guard stationed behind a nearby village. Surrounded by 200 of his Grenadiers, he stood unmoved and undismayed in the midst of the carnage where for five hours this "Wall of Granite" met and successfully resisted the shock of the repeated charges of the Austrian Cuirassiers. Desaix, whom he loved more than any of his many other companions in arms, brought reinforcements that turned



defeat into victory but sacrificed his life on this battlefield.

The Consular Guard, as it was then known, was composed of 800 men until the days of the invasion of Russia when as the Imperial Guard it numbered 56,000. The Guard was commanded by generals famous in the history of France, the first of whom was Lannes, the famous marshal who was mortally wounded at the fight at Essling. Davoust, also a famous marshal, succeeded Lannes in 1801. The under officers were his special care, in everything pertaining to their welfare, even their marriages, Napoleon took the greatest interest. His forethought extended to providing for the welfare and education of the children of his men who fell in battle. As for the soldiers, the "old grumblers," when he asked them if they were in want of anything, their uniform reply was "nothing."

Napoleon said, "If I wished only intrepid men, I could take at hazard the first of any army I came to; but I desire more, I want good conduct, morality and obedience." These were the traits that distinguished the members of his famous "Old Guard," who underwent discipline more rigorous than in the other regiments of the line. His desire was to have them an example to his whole army. Each one of these Old Guard represented some of the glories of France; they were con-



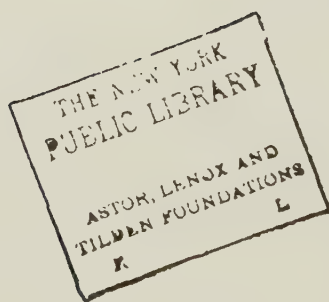
querors of Marengo, of Austerlitz, Jena, d'Eylau, Friedland, Wagram, Moscow, Lützen and Dresden. For twenty years these soldiers were in the eyes of the entire world. Their grizzled hair and long mustaches gave them a look of gravity and superiority acquired on the field of battle. Their uniforms too were imposing. Tall bearskin hats, ornamented with brass plates, scarlet plumes, blue coats with wide white facings, red epaulettes, white vests and breeches and long white gaiters made the Grenadiers, as they were sent into action to decide the fate of the battle, the most superb regiments of all the "Grande Armée." Called upon only in great emergencies, they were regarded as the prop of the Empire. Devoted to their Emperor, their affection was fully returned. The pride he felt in them, his care and the glory with which he covered them cemented this strong and abiding attachment.

Many incidents are told of his remarkable memory in recalling the name and special incident in some famous battle where individual members of the regiment distinguished themselves. How this one had saved the colors in one of the victories in Italy, or another who during an action had saved the life of his captain. Napoleon won the hearts of this Guard by such public recognition and praise of men in the ranks. Being held



### NAPOLEON'S "OLD GUARD" AT WATERLOO

Led by Marshal Ney they marched as if on parade, with their arms at support, against the English squares of Wellington.



in reserve, the Old Guard were often restless to enter the scene of action, and at Austerlitz, and on many other fields, their timely appearance decided the fate of the day.

La Tour d'Auvergne called by Napoleon, the "First Grenadier of France," a descendant of Marshal Turanne, fought his last battle at Neuberg in Bavaria in 1800. Napoleon ordered his heart to be taken from his body and borne in a silver medallion attached to the shoulder straps of the oldest grenadier in the dead hero's regiment. When d'Auvergne's name was called at muster, the soldier would respond, "*Mort au champ d'honneur*"—"Dead on the field of honour."

At Waterloo, their last battle, no greater spectacle has ever been witnessed, than when their serried battalions led by Marshal Ney, "the bravest of the brave," marched, their arms at support as if on parade, against the English squares of Wellington. Describing this famous charge in his field journal, an officer of the English Guard says: "Suddenly the firing ceased, and, as the smoke cleared away, a most superb sight opened on us. A close column of Grenadiers (about seventy in front and about 6000 strong) led, as we have since heard, by Marshal Ney, were seen ascending the rise . . . shouting 'Vive l'Empereur.'"

## CHASSEURS À CHEVAL

An incident in the campaign of Italy caused the creation of this body guard of the Commander-in-Chief. One evening when Napoleon was sitting bathing his feet in hot water, a patrol of the enemy's cavalry passed before the door of his headquarters. Giving the alarm, he seized his sword and without stockings, boots or hat mounted his horse and narrowly escaped capture.

This proved the necessity of a personal escort, and one was soon recruited from a company of guides of the Army of the Alps—with Captain Bessieres in command. Known as the Chasseurs of the Consular Guard, they were later attached to the Imperial Guard, as Chasseurs à Cheval. There were other regiments of these light cavalry in the army that saw hard service in Egypt and the wars of the Empire.

Four regiments formed the principal cavalry corps of Desaix, who had them perfected in the duties of reconnoitering with Massena in Switzerland. The 8th Regiment took part in Napoleon's victory at Zurich in 1799. At Waterloo also, the 3rd Chasseurs formed a part of Napoleon's light cavalry and nearly surrounded Wellington and his escort who owed their safety to the speed of their horses.

In Africa with the native cavalry in 1830, and at Na-



napoleon III's battles of Magenta and Solferino, seven regiments were hotly engaged, and finally at Sedan in 1870 the 6th Regiment made the superb charge which elicited admiration from their Prussian adversaries.

The Chasseurs à Cheval of the Napoleonic Guard always surrounded his person during a campaign, ready at a moment's warning, for the Emperor's sudden journeys often started at midnight. Sometimes he stopped for a time to dictate despatches and then on again, a guard of twenty-four Chasseurs preceding his carriage, all galloping in hot haste for twenty, thirty or more miles without a halt. On leaving his carriage half of their number dismounted, and fixing bayonets to their carbines presented arms. Standing around him facing outwards, surrounding him in square formation, they adapted themselves to his movements, invariably keeping a distance of some thirty paces from his person. From Spain to Moscow rode this escort of favorite troops.

It is told that they once escorted the Emperor on a wild ride from Spain to Paris. Sending couriers with despatches to all parts of Europe, Napoleon mounted his horse and rode eighty-five miles in the first five hours of the journey, which was pretty swift going for the days preceding steam railroads or automobiles. This wild gallop was long remembered by the people of the



Originating in the corps of guides, this body guard, or escort, of Napoleon in his various wars wore broad-topped bearskin shakos, with a hanging top of red with plumes of green topped with red, green jackets and scarlet pelisse, or cloak, edged with black fur, tight breeches of white, hussar boots and saber tache, or hanging wallet, bearing the imperial coat of arms, they were familiar to all of the Grande Armée as the guards of their Emperor.

towns through which the smoking cavalcade passed. Fresh relays of horses were provided along the road and instantly changing to a fresh mount, and striking his spurs in his sides he would dash on at headlong speed. With pale face, brow knit, and lips compressed, he im-

patiently kept jerking at the reins as if to quicken his speed. Few who saw that short figure in a gray overcoat and plain cocked hat ever forgot it. The whole escort strained forward in the race, for never had the gallant Chasseurs had as swift or long a ride before.

To recount the deeds of the Chasseurs à Cheval would be to describe all of Napoleon's battles, including Waterloo, for they accompanied him always. He invariably wore on campaign the simple green undress coat of his Chasseurs, a striking contrast to his marshals and generals, who appeared in richly embroidered uniforms and chapeaux ornamented with gold lace and feathers. After Waterloo, their last commander, Lefebvre-Desnouettes, took with him in his exile to the United States their Standard (l'étendard), that he had saved from the fall of the Empire. In 1822 after Napoleon's death, Lefebvre-Desnouettes returned to France and placed in the hands of King Joseph, the precious standard of the Emperor's favored guard.

#### THE POLISH LANCERS OF THE IMPERIAL GUARD

"Give them lances, they know how to use them so well," said Napoleon of his Polish Lancers, to Marshal Bessieres, the Cavalry Commander of the Imperial Guard. When the French Emperor first entered Warsaw in December, 1806, a Polish Guard of honor was

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created of young men of the best families, to assure his security while in their country. Its zeal and fidelity were such that he conceived the idea of attaching to his army a corps of light cavalry composed entirely of Poles. This was done in the following spring, when four squadrons were raised and incorporated in the Imperial Guard, wearing a Polish cap called "Schapka" adorned with the imperial crown and initial "N," and armed with lances over eight feet long, ornamented with pennons of red and white. They formed a branch of the light cavalry, often called upon for active service.

On the sanguinary field of Eylau and later at the battle of Wagram, they charged the Austrian Uhlands, whom they put to flight by the vigorous use of their lances. In Spain, they won renown at Burgos and Somo-Sierra. In Russia, they were pitted against the Cossacks in many a skirmish, protecting the rear guard of the Grand Armée in its disastrous campaign and retreat to France. The second regiment, known from the color of their uniform as the "Red Lancers," was one of the most popular in the army and immortalized itself at Waterloo, where they charged the rigid squares of Wellington's guards and fought up to the last hour. A squadron of this regiment accompanied Napoleon to Elba during his first exile, but after Waterloo the Polish Lancers passed into the service of Russia.



## THE MAMELUKES

With their loose Turkish trousers, red morocco boots, green embroidered vests and green turbans, the Mamelukes on their spirited horses with Arab scimitars brandished in the air made a stirring picture as they charged upon the enemy. Created by Bonaparte in Egypt the squadron existed until the close of his reign. While not all of them were of Oriental blood they were a picked body of light horsemen, and may be called the ancestors of the Arab "Spahis" of to-day. When Napoleon made his triumphal entry into the conquered capitals, Milan, Berlin, Madrid, Vienna and Moscow, he never neglected to have his Mamelukes at the head of his army. The Mamelukes saw continuous service and hard fighting, acquiring glory at Austerlitz, where they took an active part in defeating the Russians. At Eylau, and in Spain in 1808, in Russia and during the retreat to Paris after the battle of Leipsic, the Mamelukes were ever near the Emperor, but ceased to exist after his fall.

## GRENADIERS À CHEVAL

Attached to the Imperial Guard as part of its cavalry corps was a regiment known as the "Horse Grenadiers" (Grenadiers à Cheval). Originally they were a part of the Guard of the Directory, and as they supported



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General Bonaparte when he overthrew the Directory, he never forgot their assistance and incorporated them in the Guard of the Consuls, the predecessors of the Imperial Guard. Armed with heavy sabres, carbines and pistols and mounted on strong heavy horses, they formed the heavy branch of his "Guard Cavalry." Wearing high fur hats similar to the Foot Grenadiers, blue coats and heavy boots, they contrasted greatly in appearance with the Chasseurs à Cheval and Lancers, which formed the light cavalry branch of the "Guard."

Bessieres, the Cavalry commander, led them in many a charge, notably at Marengo in 1800 and at Eylau in 1807. With all of the other cavalry troops they charged the English at Waterloo in vain; their commander, Colonel Guyot, being badly wounded on that field so fatal to the legions of their Emperor.

### THE CUIRASSIERS

The exploits of the Cuirassiers of France are inscribed on almost every page of the history of the wars of the Republic and Empire. Before the French Revolution the "Cuirassiers du Roi" was the only regiment in the army of the monarchy who had worn the cuirass since its organization in 1638. When Bonaparte, as first Consul reorganized the army several regiments selected from the heavy cavalry troops were made into

cuirassiers and given their characteristic uniform of cuirass and helmet.

During the wars of the Empire, each of the twelve regiments was composed of over a thousand men, each regiment having four squadrons. At Austerlitz, commanded by Nansouty, they made two wonderful charges against the Austrian-Russian cavalry. At the battle of Jena they contributed largely to the victory over the Prussian army. At Eylau their general was killed, leading them in a charge. At Friedland, with Grouchy in command, by a series of brilliant charges they took and held the village which was the key of the position. Many more brilliant exploits, as well as their heroic conduct at Moscow and the retreat from Russia in 1812, are part of their glorious history. Meissonier, the famous artist, has depicted in his painting, "Friedland 1807," the enthusiasm of the Cuirassiers, as they salute the Emperor on going into action. Surrounded by his brilliant staff, the great commander gravely raises his chapeau, in response to the shouts of "Vive l'Empereur" from the 7th Cuirassiers, who gallop by, raising their swords.

It was, however, at Quatre Bras, on June 16th, 1815, and at Waterloo two days later that the Cuirassiers covered themselves with glory. Wellington when asked by Jomini, the military historian, which of his opponents

he most feared in his various campaigns, replied without hesitation, "The repeated charges of the Cuirassiers at Waterloo." It is said to have been a magnificent sight, as with sabres held high above their heads they dashed against the stubborn squares of the "Iron Duke." During the Franco-Prussian War of 1870-71, the Cuirassiers ably sustained their reputation for intrepidity inherited from former times. At Morsbrunn, two regiments, the 8th and 9th, charged through the hop fields into the streets of the village where they were almost annihilated by the fire of two Prussian infantry regiments from behind their barricades. At Reichshoffen on that same day, the 6th of August, 1870, four regiments imitating the heroism of their comrades, attacked two full army corps of the enemy. Supported by seven batteries of artillery this charge was a futile sacrifice, although it added greatly to their renown. At Rezonville, a battle fought ten days later, the Cuirassiers left 22 officers and 244 men of their corps on the field. On every battle-field of the conflict up to the final episode of Sedan, the Cuirassiers continued the brilliant fighting for which their corps is noted. In the long peace that followed that disastrous war, the Cuirassier regiments were kept up to the fullest efficiency, ready for the great European war when it finally came. "For the attack, charge!" ("Pour l'attaque, chargez!")



The Cuirassier regiments of Napoleon, which were one of the greatest factors in deciding the fate of many battles for the victorious French Emperor, were equipped with a heavy steel cuirass, worn over a short tailed blue coat, tight fitting white breeches, long horsemen's boots, and a helmet of steel ornamented with a bear skin band, tails of black horse hair and scarlet plume. Mounted on heavy horses they frequently by their sheer weight put the enemy to rout.

### ZOUAVES

"I am here! I stay!" (J'y suis, j'y reste!) exclaimed MacMahon, afterward Marshal and third President of the present French Republic, when at the head of the Zouaves he held the Malakoff bastion against the



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advancing Russians. This was in 1855, in the Crimean War. The Zouaves had been organized in 1831. At first the nucleus of the regiments was made up of Arabs from North Africa, the first companies consisting of French and Arabs in certain proportions. In 1840 they were separated, since then the Zouaves have been French troops in Moorish dress.

At the present time the Zouaves are recruited from veterans of the infantry regiments, who are distinguished for their courage and soldierly bearing. Their record is a proud one. At the assault of Constantine in 1837 the French commander asked of the Colonel of the Zouaves, Lamoricière, "If half of your men fall in the breach in the attack to-morrow, will the others hold out?" "I answer for them as for myself," was the answer, and he was assured that his Zouaves would head the attack. In 1847 there were three battalions of these gallant fighters. In their African campaigns there are recorded many instances that reveal the comradeship between the officers and their men. Officers have often risked their lives to save one of their soldiers who has fallen into Arab hands.

It was in the Crimea in 1855, when allied to Great Britain and Turkey, France made war upon Russia, that the Zouaves became world-renowned. The three battalions now increased to three full regiments were in the



front of the French line of battle. They were at Alma, at the taking of Malakoff and at Inkermann. In the capture of the Mamelon the 3rd Zouaves lost 15 officers and 580 of their men killed or wounded; and at the battle of Traktir, they resisted for an hour the desperate efforts of 40,000 Russians to turn the flanks of the French Army. At Magento, Solferino and Palestro, in the Italian war of 1859, the 2nd regiment had their flag decorated for their bravery, while the Colonel of the 3rd, the regiment that Emperor Napoleon III had loaned to Victor Emanuel for the campaign, was decorated with a gold medal and the regiment thanked profusely for their services.

The Zouaves of this regiment later elected the Italian Monarch corporal in their regiment. Returning to Algiers after the war, their next service was in Mexico, where the marches, ambuscades and combats with guerrillas, recalled their African campaigning. In the hot climate, the Zouaves kept their high reputation by splendid service. Arriving in Alsace after being transferred from Algiers, the three Zouave regiments took part in the battle of Woerth.

The third regiment defended the forest of Niederwald against a corps of Prussians but shortly afterward were made prisoners of war at Sedan. In our time the Zouaves have done conspicuous service in suppressing



The distinctive uniform of the Zouaves, worn since their organization in 1831, is adopted from the Arab costume with full loose trousers of red, short blue jackets and soft red caps. When on the march their well-packed, heavily loaded knapsacks are topped with a mess can, or kettle; which of course is dispensed with when the Zouaves go into action with all the energy and dash for which they are noted.

Arab insurrections and a rebellion in Tonkin, China, in 1888.

The popularity of the French Zouaves was shown by the raising of volunteer Zouave companies in America when the Civil War broke out in 1861. The companies and regiments of Zouaves both North and South fought

with a dash and courage that has made the name "Zouave" synonymous with warlike attributes.

### THE TURCOS

Is the popular name for the French regiments of native African Infantry, which have a similar uniform organization and equipment to the Zouaves, with which regiments they have fought side by side in the Crimea, Mexico, and the War of 1870-71. Attached to Marshal MacMahon's corps, they too fought at Woerth, and with the Cuirassiers bravely protected the retreat of the army into Sedan. While their station is in Africa they are always ready for the call to arms. It has been announced that a detachment of the Turcos have accompanied the French invading force into Alsace in the present war. There are nine regiments of Turcos in the Nineteenth Army Corps that will give France 20,000 fighting men.

### ALPINE CHASSEURS

To guard the frontier of the Alps, a corps was created in 1888 from the "Chasseurs à Pied" composed of twelve battalions and given the title of "Chasseurs Alpins"—or (Alpine Chasseurs). In it are men from the Alps, Basque provinces and Corsica, hardy men, capable of service in all kinds of weather, men expert in campaign-

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ing in the mountainous country as their name implies. Their duties are most varied and often attended with great risk.

Starting out in the early spring with engineers and mountain batteries, they climb the passes, dig trenches, practise signaling and raise redoubts which are to be occupied in time of war. Their equipment is most picturesque and suited to their needs. In his blue tunic and full knee breeches and sash of lighter blue, big blue cap of "Tam o' Shanter" style and bands or "puttees" of blue, heavy knapsack and rifle, the Alpine Chasseur, alpine-stock in hand marches over country impossible to other troops of the army. In winter, snowshoes and skis form part of the equipment, in the use of which the Chasseur is an expert.

## CHAPTER IV

### THE FAMOUS REGIMENTS OF THE UNITED STATES

**I**T is the good fortune of the United States of America to be so placed in history and in the Western World that we have never been from choice or necessity a war-like nation, yet in two great crises of national history, when the nation was in the making and when battles were fought in its perpetuation, there have been many famous corps of fighting men who won everlasting fame in the wars for independence, national existence and the preservation of the Union.

#### FIRST REGIMENTS—THE MINUTE MEN

When the yoke of Great Britain began to oppress the Colonies, companies of militia, bearing names of "Minute Men," "Regulators," "Rangers," etc., were organized. These men were being drilled and where possible were supplied with arms for the conflict that they felt was approaching. In New England, a quarter of the total number of militia-men were enlisted for service in emergency; these companies to consist of fifty men, who



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elected their company officers. The "Minute Men," as they were known, were to be ready to serve at a "minute's" warning. It was with a little squad composed of about 100 of these, that Captain Parker resisted the command of the British Major Pitcairn to "disperse," on that early morning of April 19, 1775, and it was Captain Davis of the Acton "Minute Men" who gave up his life at the first volley fired by the "red coats" at Concord Bridge, later on in the same day. The Provincial Congress of Massachusetts, summoned shortly after the Lexington and Concord fight, resolved to raise 13,600 men, and as 30,000 were considered necessary to confront the Royal forces in Boston, they called on the colonies of New Hampshire and Rhode Island to furnish a proportionate number.

### THE GREEN MOUNTAIN BOYS

During the next month, May, 1775, Colonel Ethan Allen, at the head of some 230 of his hardy "Green Mountain Boys" marched over from what is now known as Vermont and captured Fort Ticonderoga early on the morning of the 10th of May. His devoted "Boys" declared when Colonel Benedict Arnold attempted to assume command that they would "club their fire-locks and return home, unless Allen led them." So in a few days this handful of untrained men without a bayonet

among them, had taken without the loss of a man the fortress that had cost England so much blood and treasure and had thereby contributed a store of artillery and ammunition much needed by the Colonists in their coming war for freedom. On June 17th came the clash of arms at "Bunker's Hill" when, 300 of Colonel Prescott's and small detachments of Frye's, Gerrish's and Nixon's regiments, held the redoubt on the hill, while Stark and Reed of New Hampshire with Captain Knowlton of Connecticut, defended the rail fence down the slope to the water's edge. All Americans have read, how the King's veteran troops, burdened with their knapsacks and accoutrements, weighing over 100 pounds, marched through the tall grass with steady step, confident of victory over those inexperienced Colonists, who defended their positions at such terrible cost to their opponents, and only yielded their ground and retreated when their ammunition was entirely spent. When the new Commander-in-Chief, George Washington, took command at Cambridge of the motley army that was hemming in the enemy in Boston, it was composed of regiments gathered from the various Colonies, the larger number being New Englanders. These regiments invariably were designated by the names of their commanding Colonels. This method obtained all through the war, although they were officially numbered when Congress

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ordered the establishment of the "Continental" Army on December 1, 1775.

### GLOVER'S MARBLEHEAD REGIMENT

In this force that invested Boston, were 39 "Massachusetts Bay" regiments, 4 companies of Riflemen from Virginia and Maryland, 2 companies of a Connecticut regiment, and a regiment of artillery. Among the Continental troops that became famous during the succeeding conflict, was Glover's regiment of Marblehead and Gloucester fishermen that did great service at the retreat across the East River after the battle of Long Island, and at the crossing of the Delaware, during the blizzard of Christmas Eve in 1776, when they manned the boats that ferried the regiments across the Delaware to the field of action.

### MORGAN'S RIFLEMEN

Among the first of those who responded to the call of Congress following quickly on the battle of Lexington was Daniel Morgan of Virginia who mustered a picked company of riflemen of his State and at their head marched the six hundred miles from Winchester, their starting point, to Cambridge in twenty-one days, reporting to Washington that every one of his men was "fit for duty."

The story is told that Morgan arrived in Cambridge in the dusk of the evening and Washington in order to distinguish the approaching company had drawn up his horse. The Virginia Captain advanced and saluting exclaimed, "General—from the right bank of the Potomac!" Dismounting, his Commander-in-Chief took the Captain's hand in both of his and pressed it silently, then passing down the ranks took in turn the hand of each of these men upon whom he afterward placed such reliance.

Morgan at this time was in the prime of life, six feet tall in his moccasins and of splendid physique. His company of expert marksmen, trained in woodcraft from their early youth, was the most unique organization in the Continental army. Their ability to hit a mark seven inches in diameter while on a quick advance at a distance of 250 yards was a marvel to the other troops. Their practical and picturesque dress made them conspicuous also. Their fringed hunting shirts were strongly recommended by Washington, who shrewdly observed, that "it was a dress that carried terror to the enemy, as they thought each wearer was an expert marksman." Such was the company that was the inception of Morgan's famous rifle regiment, or the 11th Virginia of the Continental Line, later to become the most dreaded fighting men in the American Army.



An opportunity soon came for action, for, with other Virginia and Pennsylvania rifle companies, they eagerly volunteered for the expedition that started out in September for the conquest of Canada. This ill-fated army of conquest was under the command of Brigadier-General Benedict Arnold and Morgan's Riflemen led the column. They were the pioneer force that carried the boats and baggage through the wilderness, forcing their way through thickets that tore their hunting frocks to tatters. Forced to scramble over rocks and fallen trees in torrents of rain they suffered hardships that fully tested Morgan's powers of command and proved a severe trial to the strength and spirits of the men in the ranks.

Finally on the 5th of November, Morgan in advance of the rest of the force, arrived at Point Levi, on the St. Lawrence, opposite Quebec. Crossing the river under cover of darkness, Morgan urged making the attack at once, while the small garrison was unprepared, but the opportunity was allowed to pass, and so the town was strengthened every day. It was finally decided to await the arrival of General Montgomery who was advancing with another wing of the American Army from Montreal and with combined forces to attack the town.

On the last day of 1775, this assault so disastrous to the American cause was made. In a blinding snow



storm Montgomery, advancing against a block house on the river road, was killed with many of his followers. Arnold's little force of less than 600 men with six small pieces of artillery had meanwhile advanced against the upper town. In the face of the driving snow and on the frozen ground the riflemen alone were superior to the elements and crept within forty yards of the city walls to pick off the sentries by their deadly marksmanship.

When Morgan addressed his men before the assault he told them "they would win a province for their country and immortal honor." They replied with cheers and assured him they would follow wherever he led. In the snow and darkness, an entrance was made through the Palace gate, and then through the streets toward the outer barrier of the citadel under a musketry fire that severely wounded Arnold. The command was now given to Morgan, who with a Canadian guide led his Virginians toward the barrier against which they instantly placed their scaling ladders. Seeing the foremost man hesitate, Morgan pulled him down, and shouting, "Follow me, boys!" was the first to mount. As his head rose over the wall, he was fired at by the whole guard defending the garrison. So close was the fire that his face was scorched by powder, one ball went through his cap, another grazing his face cut off a lock

of hair, and the force of the concussion threw him from the top of the ladder.

This checked his men only a moment, for their gallant colonel was quickly on his feet and again mounted the ladder. With a wild cheer they followed him and once over the obstruction drove all of the guard out into the street, where they threw down their arms and surrendered. Up to this time Morgan and his Virginian riflemen had done most of the fighting. With the prisoners they had taken they now halted, as Morgan's orders were to await Montgomery at this spot, but unhappily for the little army, Montgomery had been slain and his force defeated. The enemy were now enabled to re-man their batteries and in spite of the bravest fighting on the part of Morgan's men, the American Army was surrounded by superior numbers and compelled to surrender. It is said that Morgan's vexation at the hopelessness of the situation was such that he wept like a child. He consented to give up his sword only to a chaplain, as with his back to the wall, he had dared any of the British soldiers to come and take it.

Morgan and the survivors of the battle were kept prisoners until summer, when they were released on parole and sent to New York in September, 1776. When Morgan was exchanged and again restored to Washington's army, he was charged with recruiting a regiment of rifle-

men of which he was given command. Wherever action was needed, on outposts or skirmishing parties, these picked men were in demand. When Burgoyne marched down from Canada, Washington sent Morgan and his riflemen, now numbered the 11th Virginia, to strengthen Gates' army. Always in the advance watching the enemy's movements, the regiment did more than its share in the battles at Bemis Heights on September 19th and Stillwater, October 7th, that forced the British commander to surrender later at Saratoga. When Gates was told that Burgoyne seemed to offer battle at Stillwater he asked his adjutant, what he should suggest, the reply was, "I would indulge him." To which Gates replied, "Order out Morgan to begin the game!" It was on the field of Stillwater that General Frazer, one of Burgoyne's most valued officers, fell by the unerring aim of the riflemen.

At the beginning and close of the action Morgan was in the thickest of the fight, invincible in arms, and skilful in handling his command. Once during the first battle when his men were scattered through the woods, General Gates' adjutant found him with but two of his men. Morgan at his appearance called his followers with a turkey-call whistle, who instantly recognizing the signal started up from unseen places, and hastened to their chief. Burgoyne at the time of the surrender pro-



Probably no simpler uniform was ever prescribed than that worn by the "Virginia" Riflemen of the Revolutionary War. "Hunting Shirts" of coarse white linen with raveled edges, called "furbelows," long gaiters, worn over rough shoes (or moccasins) and a broad brimmed hat, "cocked" up on one side, made a dress that struck terror to the enemy's heart, for he imagined all its wearers were expert marksmen. A long rifle and hunting knife were his "arms"—while a cartridge box and large wooden canteen like a keg, completed his equipment.

nounced Morgan's riflemen the "finest regiment in the world," an opinion that had its foundation in personal experience. To follow the exploits of this famous regiment would be to give an account of many of the battles of the war of the Revolution. Their brave colonel was



soon promoted to be a Brigadier-General and won a well-earned victory at Cowpens during General Greene's Southern campaign in 1781, which did much to overturn the enemy's entire plan of operations south of Virginia.

#### COLONEL MOULTRIE'S 2D SOUTH CAROLINA

In June, 1776, a British fleet bearing several invading regiments after a voyage of over three months arrived off the coast of South Carolina and attacked a small fort on Sullivan's island. Defending this fort made of palmetto logs were some 350 men of Colonel Moultrie's 2d South Carolina Regiment, with a company of artillerymen who made such a brave resistance that the British were unable to land and finally sailed away. During the action the South Carolina flag was shot from its staff, whereupon Sergeant Jasper of the Grenadier company deliberately jumped through an embrasure upon the beach, took up the flag and fixing it on a sponge staff, mounted the ramparts and leisurely fixed it in its place. This defense of Fort Moultrie is one of the most remarkable achievements in Revolutionary annals. A small garrison of raw troops with officers who had seen little if any service had by their cool, deliberate courage and skilful use of artillery opposed and driven off an enemy's fleet commanded by able officers with a land force led by two distinguished generals.



## SMALLWOOD'S BATTALION, 2D MARYLAND

A regiment that distinguished itself early in the conflict and sustained its reputation in the preliminary skirmishes and all through the war was Smallwood's Maryland Battalion, known as the "Macaronis." At the battle of Long Island on August 27, 1776, mustering 600 strong they were commanded by Major Gist. They were posted in Sterling's Brigade where they five times gallantly attacked Cornwallis, who with his Grenadiers and artillery were posted by the old Cortelyou house, and so covered the retreat of the best part of the brigade over the marshes and creek in their rear. The "Macaronis" were one of the few uniformed and well-disciplined organizations in the American Army and Washington relied upon the Marylanders to perform the most hazardous and important duties; as one of its members said, it was "their fate to be stationed at advanced posts and act as covering parties to other troops."

At Trenton, the remnant of the regiment took part in Washington's victory, and at the battle of Princeton. Recruited to full strength, in 1780, the regiment was a part of General Gates' army in the South. At the battle of Camden in 1780, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel John Eager Howard, they pressed the enemy so closely that they obliged them to retreat; but being left

by Gates without any supporting troops they found that their little handful of regulars must bear the brunt of the concentrated efforts of their opponents.

For over an hour they contended against greatly superior forces and with the same unflinching obstinacy they had shown at Long Island. At length, with Hallett's Delaware regiment, they were led by Baron de Kalb in a vigorous charge on the enemy in which the brave leader fell covered with wounds. It was a disastrous defeat for the Americans in spite of the bravery of the Continental regulars, for with Gates the militia fled from the field and the army was obliged to retreat.

Under General Nathanael Greene, Washington's ablest general, who superseded the defeated Gates, the Maryland Battalions were among the few that he most relied upon in his battles with Lord Cornwallis. At Guilford Court House on March 15th, 1781, one of the most hotly contested of these engagements was fought. Greene drew up his army on a large hill surrounded by trees and thick underbrush. His front line was composed of North Carolina Militia who were placed behind a rail fence, where it was hoped that although undisciplined they would make a stand.

Three hundred yards to the rear, the Virginia Militia was placed as a second line, and behind these stood the Virginia and Maryland lines of Continental troops,

"with steadiness and composure." The enemy's force composed of some of England's crack regiments including two battalions of the "Guards" moved toward the American lines. After firing a single volley, the first line of militia, on the approach of the British bayonets, fled in spite of all the efforts of their officers to restrain them. The second line, however, opened a destructive fire and severely handled the enemy as they approached.

For a time these Virginia militiamen fought nobly and so ably contended with their veteran opponents, that it seemed that they would wrest victory from them, but while they successfully opposed the enemy at a distance they too fell back, when the enemy charged them with the bayonet. It was therefore on the third line of "Regular Continentals" that the brunt of the battle now fell. With Colonel Gunby and Lieutenant-Colonel Howard in command, the Marylanders, supported by a regiment of Virginians and a Delaware Company, now received the attacking force. This onslaught was led by able officers and well conducted, yet from lack of support against the cool determination of the Continentals the enemy was soon forced to seek safety in retreat.

It was while this part of the British force was falling back, that the Seventy-First English regiment and Second "Guard" battalion charged the Marylanders, who held the right of the American line. As a part of them

were overwhelmed and had retreated, Colonel Gunby wheeled his regiment and with a destructive fire attacked the Grenadiers of the Guard on their left flank. The sudden appearance of this new foe and the havoc made in his ranks caused the "Guards" Commander, Lieutenant-Colonel Stewart, to stop in his pursuit and turn to attack Colonel Gunby.

In the words of an eminent historian (Henry B. Dawson): "The flower of the two armies had now met face to face, and a struggle which would have honored the veterans of any age or nation immediately began. The 'Macaronis,' who under Colonel Smallwood had met the enemy at Brooklyn and at Chatterlon's Hill and subsequently at Germantown, Camden, and at Cowpens were now confronting in battle the British Guards, and the glorious past gave impetus to both of them in their determination to conquer or die."

Colonel Stewart fell, by the sword of Captain Smith of the Marylanders. Colonel Gunby having been dismounted and wounded, the command of the "Macaronis" devolved upon Lieutenant-Colonel Howard. A force of American dragoons under Colonel William Washington coming to Howard's aid, the Marylanders were ordered to charge with the bayonet. This was one of the few rare occasions during the war that the Americans were given such an order in the open field. The



combined operations of the Dragoons and the "Macaronis" were irresistible and but few of the Guards remained to tell of that overwhelming onslaught. This charge of the Americans was driven home with such vigor and the effect on his other regiments was such that Lord Cornwallis ordered his artillery to open fire on that part of the field where the contest was raging, in spite of the fact that he knew every ball must pass through the ranks of his own gallant "Guards."

The work that Colonel Howard and Colonel Washington had undertaken had been completed however, and they retired from the slaughter before the British commander's desperate step was adopted. Not daring to depend upon his militia and desirous of sparing the remnants of his hard fought line regiments, Greene ordered a retreat, a movement, which while executed in good order, left Cornwallis in possession of the field and claiming a victory. A victory so costly that when it was announced in the House of Commons, Fox, the British Statesman, exclaimed, "Another such victory will ruin the British Army." In all of Greene's other engagements in his campaign of 1780-1781, Smallwood's Marylanders were always in the thick of the fighting and their services have shed luster on the history of the American Army.



## KNOWLTON'S RANGERS

Among other regiments famous for some special service in the war of the Revolution might be mentioned "Knowlton's Rangers." With some of his Connecticut companies Knowlton had served at Bunker's Hill and the siege of Boston. After the battle of Long Island he organized his Regiment of Rangers from the remnants of other Connecticut troops. When Washington called for a volunteer for a particular and hazardous service it was Nathan Hale, a captain of the "Rangers," who offered his services, and who when about to be executed nobly exclaimed, "I regret that I have but one life to lose for my country!" At the battle of Harlem Heights, Knowlton at the head of his "Rangers" drove the enemy back until re-enforced, giving up his life in the cause of freedom, a loss that was greatly deplored in the Continental Army.

## KNOX'S ARTILLERY

Henry Knox and his artillery corps made themselves renowned on many of the battle-fields of the Revolution. Washington gave him the command of this branch of the service at Cambridge after he had brought to the camp at Cambridge, on sleds drawn by oxen through the forest, in the depth of winter, the guns and

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stores captured at Ticonderoga. All through the war by the side of the commander-in-chief, as a Brigadier-General, Knox directed his batteries. On the fields of Trenton, Princeton, Brandywine, Germantown and at Monmouth, he displayed so much energy and skill in the precision and effect of his fire that the Continentals were saved from defeat. At Yorktown, his batteries rivaled those of the French in the execution done on the enemy's entrenchments. In his command were companies from different States officered by men conspicuous for their ability and bravery. Gridley, at Bunker Hill, Lamb, Calender and Alexander Hamilton at Long Island, Oswald at Monmouth, and James Monroe at Trenton are a few of the men well known in history that made their military reputations in the artillery.

### CAVALRY IN THE REVOLUTION

At the beginning of the war there were no cavalry regiments, the first to be organized later was Major Sheldon's troop of "Light Horse" from Connecticut and the First City Troop of Philadelphia, a crack volunteer company which is still in existence, and which acted as escort to Washington on his journey to Cambridge in 1775, and fought under his command at Trenton and Princeton the next year. In 1777, Congress ordered a corps of four regiments of cavalry to be added to the

army, and later on, three legions of partizan "Light Horse," which were commanded by Colonels Armand, Pulaski and Major Harry Lee. "Light Horse Harry," as Major Lee was called, served with his comrade at arms, Colonel William Washington under Greene in his Southern Campaign, and made many a furious charge upon the enemy. At Cowpens, Colonel Washington had a hand-to-hand fight with Cornwallis' active Cavalry leader, Tarleton, in which the latter was worsted and with his command driven from the field.

#### MARION'S MEN

When General Gates was defeated at Camden by Cornwallis the only defense that was left to the South were the little bands of volunteer patriots led by Sumter, Pickens and Marion who joined forces with their brethren from the adjoining States of Georgia and North Carolina.

Abandoned by Congress and the Army these brave volunteers fought without pay or hope of reward, leaving the ranks only when the sustenance of their families demanded their planting or harvesting their crops. The country was overrun with the enemy's veterans and their Royalist supporters. "There was no part of the country from the mountains to the seaboard," says Dr. McCrady, "which was not trod by hostile forces; no ford, nor

ferry that was not crossed by armed men in pursuit or retreat, no swamp that was not cover to lurking foes."

The "Swamp Fox," as the British General Tarleton called Francis Marion, knew every inch of his native State and gathering twenty fearless riders and expert marksmen about him formed the nucleus of "Marion's Brigade." Every saw and available piece of steel was fashioned by the settlement blacksmiths into rough swords. There was no state government in these troubled times in South Carolina and no funds were available to buy equipment. When the planting and harvesting of the crops had not thinned the ranks of Marion's men there were sometimes as many as four troops of cavalry in the brigade. More often there was only a scant hundred riders. Marion's men were all superb horsemen and crack shots and their quick movements from their hiding place in the swamps to attack the enemy unawares filled the veteran British troops and their Royalist supporters with dismay. In one month, these daring volunteers ill-fed and poorly equipped met the superior forces of their antagonists in seventy-two engagements in which they inflicted a loss of 500 men.

In the country between the Pee Dee and the Savannah rivers where the enemy had military bases at Camden and Charlestown, Marion's men fought many des-



perate battles which resulted in the complete overturn of the enemy's elaborate plans to conquer the South and at the same time gave Washington the opportunity to remedy the serious defects in the organization of his army which had already begun to show the effects of its long campaigns.

#### END OF THE WAR

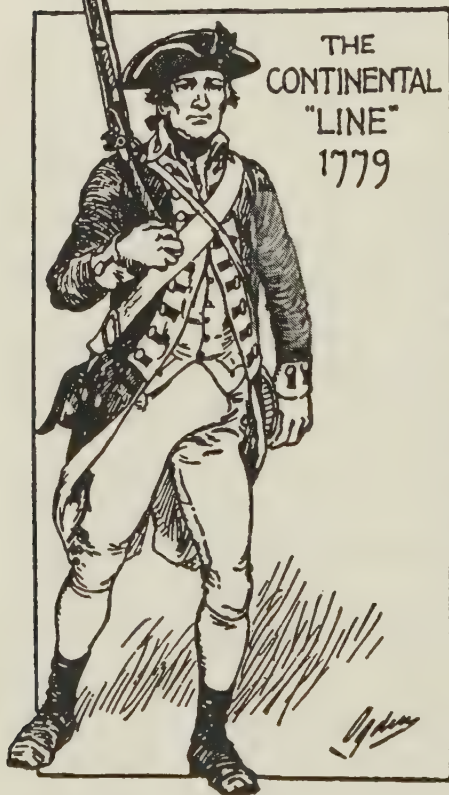
Washington's army, owing to short enlistments, was frequently reduced to a mere handful of men fit for duty. At Valley Forge, for instance, during that trying winter of 1777-8 his force had dwindled to but 5000 half starved ragged men. These were the surviving companies of the regiments that had fought at Long Island and the subsequent battles up to the time of their going into winter quarters. These tattered patriots, however, were drilled by Baron Steuben, until with the recruits and men that rejoined the army they were able at Monmouth, the following summer, to inflict severe loss upon Sir Henry Clinton's army, in its retreat from Philadelphia to New York.

Active campaigning having ended at Yorktown, the army was disbanded at Newburgh, N. Y., the regiments returning to their homes. After the war such was the government's aversion to a standing army, that less than 100 men were kept in the service, one quarter



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of whom were stationed at Fort Pitt, now Pittsburgh, the remainder, the artillery section, going to the garrison at West Point.



Washington prescribed a uniform for the Continental "Line" Regiments in 1779, that was followed when possible, but as money and resources were meager the term of "Ragged Continental" was often literally true. Black felt cocked hats, bound with white braid, blue coats, with facings of buff, white or red, according to their States, breeches of buckskin or cloth and short black gaiters called "spatter-dashes" distinguished these regiments who followed the greatest of Americans to final victory and Independence.

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### THE ARMY UNTIL THE WAR OF 1812

Eight companies of Infantry and two of Artillery were raised in 1785, which was the beginning of the army of to-day. While General Wayne won a victory over the Indians under Tecumseh in 1795, it was not until the war with Great Britain in 1812, that any of the regiments won renown. In addition to the volunteers and militia, some 25,000 or 30,000 regulars formed the army, which often defeated and often poorly led, did not on many occasions add any notable achievements to the honor rolls of American regiments.

### 21ST UNITED STATES INFANTRY

In Canada, not far from Niagara Falls, on the night of July 25, 1814, the battle of Lundy's Lane was fought, resulting in a victory for the American Army under General Brown and General Scott. When Colonel Miller of the 21st U. S. Infantry was ordered to capture the British batteries, at the head of the lane, he replied, "I'll try, sir!" With his little command in double files he advanced to within fifty feet of the cannon, where they halted, took aim and fired and at the order "charge!" rushed upon the guns. The struggle was desperate and brief, for in a few moments what was left of the three hundred were victorious. At this battle

also, on the right of the American lines, the 25th Regulars under the command of Major Jessup had completely outflanked the enemy and had taken the British General Riall prisoner.

#### JACKSON'S MEN AT NEW ORLEANS

At New Orleans, the force under General Andrew Jackson with which he fought and won the battle on January 8th, 1815, was made up of all sorts of troops. There were volunteer Dragoons, Louisiana volunteers, sailors, Lafitte's Baratarian smugglers, New Orleans Rifles, regiments of negroes, riflemen from Kentucky and Tennessee, a few artillerymen and a detachment of the 44th Regiment of the regular army.

Nevertheless, these men behind their hastily constructed rampart of hogsheads and cotton bales repelled the repeated charges of the eight regiments of Wellington's British veterans. With fearful havoc caused by their skilful aim, the British ranks were mown down, their commanding generals, Packenham, Gibbs and Kean, falling in rapid succession. When finally obliged to retire twenty-six hundred killed and wounded were left on the field, while the American loss was but eight killed and thirteen wounded—one of the most remarkable victories in the annals of warfare won by the unerring skill of the native riflemen.

The Infantry regiments of the United States in the War of 1812 wore a uniform modeled largely on those of the French infantry of the time. Bell-shaped caps called Shakos, trimmed with white-braided cord and tassels, white cotton plumes, coats of blue, with long buttonholes, white metal buttons, long white trousers, white gaiters, fur knapsacks, wooden canteens and flintlock muskets formed the equipment of the regiments that won at Lundy's Lane and New Orleans.



### THE MEXICAN WAR

The war with Mexico in 1846-7 has been called the training ground for the Civil War, for in that conflict with our neighboring state, many of the officers and

men who fought side by side, gained the experience and knowledge of warfare that made them such able foemen a few years later. Of the Regular Army, in 1846, eight regiments were of Foot, or Infantry, four of Artillery, two of Dragoons and one of Mounted Riflemen; to these were added during the war, volunteer regiments from nearly all of the States, north, south and west, that then comprised the Union.

Countless instances of gallantry, bravery and hard service could be told of many of the officers and men of these volunteers. The war while brief was full of hard campaigning and action. A dozen pitched battles, several sieges and many skirmishes by the armies of Generals Scott and Taylor finally brought the war to an end with the capture of the City of Mexico.

#### 2ND DRAGOONS

Probably the one regiment that saw the most service was the 2nd Dragoons, a squadron of which under Captain Thornton started the war. Under the orders of General Zachary Taylor he attacked a party of Mexicans on the Rio Grande border and a conflict was precipitated. With Taylor's advance from the north, the Dragoons were soon in the thick of the fighting. At Palo Alto, although a fight won largely by the artillery, they had a share. But it was at Resaca de la Palma,



the battle of the next day, May 9th, 1846, that their furious charge made them famous. Surrounded and protected by the dense undergrowth the Mexicans occupied a strong position, whereupon General Taylor ordered Captain Charles May with his squadron of the 2nd Dragoons to "charge the foremost of the enemy's batteries and take it."

At a gallop May led his men to the charge. Stripped of every unnecessary incumbrance, they brandished their sabres showing their bare muscular arms. May, with his long beard and his hair streaming beneath his cap, was far in advance of his command as they rode upon the battery. A terrible fire of grape and canister from the Mexican batteries on higher ground greeted them bringing down many men and horses. Two of the lieutenants fell, but on they charged, leaping over the guns, soon putting the Mexicans to rout. Having accomplished their task, the squadrons checked and scattered themselves among a host of enemies who now poured a galling fire of musketry upon them. With five or six of his men, May charged back toward the American lines, the Mexicans shrinking from his powerful sword. One of them, however, stood his ground, vainly trying to rally his men. As he had seized a match and was about to discharge one of the guns, the captain ordered him to surrender. Seeing that the command came from

an officer the Mexican touched his breast, saying, "General La Vega is a prisoner!", and gave up his sword. Under a terrible fire May conducted his prisoner to the rear, where he presented the captain's sword to General Taylor. It was a hard fought battle and it was only after repeated attacks by the American Infantry regiments that the Mexicans sullenly retired. In the succeeding battles fought by Taylor's little army he swept all before him. On the march to Mexico City the regiment was conspicuous in the victories of Monterey and Buena Vista.

At Buena Vista, his little army of 4500 men was attacked by the Mexican General, Santa Anna with a force of over 25,000. When Santa Anna sent a summons to the American commander to surrender, saying he was surrounded by over 20,000 men, "Old Rough and Ready," as General Taylor was called, "declined to accede to the request," and thereupon proceeded to repel the repeated assaults and was finally able to drive Santa Anna and his army from the field. Under General Winfield Scott, to whose force marching from the coast the regiment had been transferred, they took part at the siege of Vera Cruz, the engagements of Cerro Gordo, Contreras, Churubuso, and Molino del Rey, and with the victorious general, their mounted band playing "Hail, Columbia!" they took

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possession of the Cathedral Plaza in Mexico City. It was in the new territory gained by the conquest of Mexico, that the regiment served for some years to come.

The Dragoons in the United States Army during the war with Mexico wore a flat campaign cap similar to those of the present time, short "Shell" jackets of dark blue, with yellow binding and brass buttons, long trousers of light blue cloth and black shoes. Mustaches distinguished the mounted troops in 1847 and the Dragoons were the first regiments allowed to wear them. With carbines and sabres the United States Dragoons were a most efficient part of the forces of General Scott and General Taylor in their conquest of Mexico.



## 2D CAVALRY

In 1861 the title of Dragoons for mounted regiments having been abolished, the 2d was known as the "2d Cavalry," and so fought continuously through the Civil War. Under General Hooker's command of the army, the Cavalry was completely reorganized and fought in many actions against the brilliant cavalry leaders and regiments on the Southern side. Beverly Ford, Brandy Station, Yellow Tavern, Trevillian Station, and later at Winchester and Cedar Creek under Sheridan the 2d won distinction not to mention the greater battles in which they took part. Like all of the mounted regiments, after the great conflict had terminated, they served on the plains in the Indian troubles that are now happily ended. To-day the regiment is considered one of the old reliable organizations of the United States Army.

## SOME OF THE CIVIL WAR REGIMENTS

In 1861, when Fort Sumter had been fired upon, and President Lincoln two days later issued his call for 75,000 volunteers, the national capital was without defenders save for a few volunteer companies. The few regiments comprising the regular army some 16,000 men in all had been transferred to posts



far apart in the west and south. The result was that in the response to the call to arms the Sixth Massachusetts Militia was the first regiment to see fighting and that at the hands of a secessionist mob in Baltimore.

Quickly followed by other regiments, among which was the 8th Massachusetts and Colonel Leffert's 7th New York, the Capital was in a measure protected; while the 7th regiment saw little service as an organization, it gave from its ranks many of the flower of the city's young men as officers to other regiments. When mustered in by General McDowell, he remarked to one of its captains, "You have a company of officers, not privates," which in the end proved true, for out of the thousand who volunteered, six hundred, most of them privates, became officers in the Union Army.

### ZOUAVES

Among the many other regiments, famous in the first days of the war, was the 11th New York, or Ellsworth's Zouaves, recruited from the New York Fire Department. These men, noted for their drill and dash, soon had occasion to show their bravery in repulsing a furious charge of the Confederate "Black Horse Cavalry" on the battle-field of Bull Run. Colonel Ellsworth, the commander had shortly before the



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battle given up his life in hauling down the enemy's flag at Alexandria, a sacrifice that aroused the North to a realization of the war and greatly stimulated recruiting.

### AT GETTYSBURG

Of the services rendered by the hundreds of regiments that volunteered and fought in both of the armies that for four years waged the greatest Civil War in history and won renown in many skirmishes and battles, it would be impossible to relate in detail. New York contributed 193 and Pennsylvania 150 regiments, while Ohio led the west with nearly 200 and Illinois with 156.

U. S. Grant started his great career as Colonel of the 21st Illinois. Among the Wisconsin regiments was one that carried a live American eagle on a perch, and when "Old Abe," as he was called, was held aloft, the 8th Wisconsin was most conspicuous. For three years he followed the "Live Eagle Regiment" being near the flag in thirty battles. Vainly did the sharpshooters try to pick him off, he seemed to bear a charmed life. When the regiment was ordered to lie down in skirmishes "Old Abe" would flatten himself on the ground and rising when they did, with outspread wings would share in the excitement of the charge.

All of the other States contributed their proportionate number of regiments to the cause of the Union and poured their state funds into the making of armies of the ablest troops and commanders that have ever fought on any field. At Gettysburg in the three days' battle that contributed so largely to bring about the end of the war and the perpetuation of the Union, the regiments on both sides showed bravery without parallel. Commanded by officers, many of whom had been classmates at West Point and had fought side by side in Mexico, and all inspired by the justness of their cause, the Gettysburg regiments seemed the culmination of man's fighting powers. On the 1st of July the opening day of the battle, the 6th Wisconsin Regiment received the command to "dress on the colors." It was the only order that could hold them together, so broken were their ranks by the enemy's fire. Several times the color bearers were shot down, but the flags were soon raised. Not one of the color guard escaped, every man being killed or wounded. Four hundred and twenty men started from their position near a fence and lost half their number in an advance of seventy-five paces to a railroad cut.

On the second day, many regiments performed acts of the most conspicuous valor. When General Hancock saw a gap in his line, and that a Confederate

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Brigade was pushing rapidly forward to enter it, he looked around for troops to fill the opening. The First Minnesota being the nearest at hand; he rode to their Colonel saying as he pointed to the enemy's flag, "Do you see those colors? Take them!" A short fierce fight ensued, in which the regiment lost

The "Boys in Blue," as the volunteers in the Northern Army in the Civil War were often called, were uniformed entirely in the National colors. The blue cap, and sack coat were of a dark shade and long full trousers of a lighter shade. As the war progressed many laid aside their heavy knapsacks to march and fight with blankets rolled and worn over the shoulder. Haversacks of linen, painted black, tin canteen, cartridge and percussion cap-box completed the soldier's equipment in the field.





PENNSYLVANIANS AND VIRGINIANS AT GETTYSBURG  
Webb's Brigade holding the stone wall against the attack of Pickett's  
Virginians, on the third day of the battle.





eighty-two per cent. in killed and wounded, but the onset of the enemy was stayed and the desired time was gained in which to bring up reinforcements.

On the same day, the 140th New York and 20th Maine heroically defended "Little Round Top," the hill at the extreme left of the Union Line. On the third day at the stone wall, called in the history of the War the "High-tide of the Confederacy," it was Webb's brigade of the 69th, 71st, 72d, and 106th Pennsylvania regiments that on their native soil received the shock and repelled Pickett's brigade of veteran Virginians.

On the side of the Confederacy many were the regiments whose deeds are cherished by their States. Stonewall Jackson's "foot cavalry" that tramped up and down the Shenandoah Valley, ill fed and poorly clad, striking his opponents with skill and daring; and Stuart's Cavalry, who carried terror to the Northern army by its astonishing raids completely around them. The Louisiana Tigers, who up to Gettysburg were famous, sustained such losses on the Union right at Culp's Hill that they were never afterward heard from.

Volumes have been written of the exploits of fighting corps with their divisions and brigades made up of the regiments which at the end of the war were disbanded, the men of both of the great armies, amounting to nearly three million men, resuming the duties of peace-

ful citizenship in the reunited nation, in a way that astonished the world.

#### CUSTER'S 7TH CAVALRY

Among the ablest of the cavalry generals of the Civil War was George A. Custer, who, on the reorganization of the regular army, was made Colonel of the 7th Cavalry, a regiment which had served gallantly in the recent conflict. With others, it was ordered out to suppress the troublesome tribes in the Northwest and the fate of Custer and five companies of the 7th is one of the saddest pages in the annals of the American Army. In the spring of 1876 an expeditionary force under General Terry was sent to quell an uprising of the hostile tribes of Indians in the "Bad Lands" of Montana. On June 25, Custer and his regiment came upon the overwhelming force of Indians comprised of Sioux, Cheyenne, and Arrapahoes, with chief "Sitting Bull" in command. In the valley of the Little Big Horn River Custer divided his force into three columns. His own of five companies containing 250 men was assailed by 2500 of the savage warriors. Surrounded on all sides, selling their lives dearly they were completely annihilated. As it has been said, that while "Thermopylæ had its messenger of death, Custer's last battle had

none." As a leader of cavalry, Custer has been called "the Murat of the American Army." He was graduated from West Point in 1861 and immediately entered the army of the Potomac. From that time on he was renowned for his deeds in almost every cavalry action of that army, frequent promotions for gallantry making him a brevet major-general at the close of the war.

#### THE VIRGINIA BOY REGIMENT AT THE BATTLE OF NEWMARKET

*"Over the dead see their school flag float;  
But their pride strikes top of its mad joy when  
They hear from their rough old General's throat,  
'Well done, Virginians! Well done, men.'"*

At the foot of the rugged mountains in the beautiful Shenandoah Valley nestles the snug little hamlet of Newmarket. Here on a memorable Sunday morning in the spring of '64 the boy regiment from the famous Virginia Military Institute joined the forces of General Breckinridge and aided by their historic charge to gain a brilliant victory over the Federal General, Sigel. These boys, fresh from the parade ground of "the West Point of the South," had come down the Staunton Pike at dawn with their four infantry companies, the regimental fifes playing "The Girl I Left Behind Me," and their dimin-

tive field battery rumbling behind. As they marched to Newmarket the companies of veterans at rest along the road hailed them with lullabies and rocked their muskets in good-natured raillery, but these lads, the eldest seventeen and the youngest twelve, had been drilled under the stern eye of their former tutor, Stonewall Jackson, and they heeded not this boisterous fun. Their hearts were too full of serious premonitions of their part in the coming battle.

In the meadowland that gently rises to the hills just outside the village the enemy had arrived beforesetimes and drawn up a skirmish line, their left wing posted in the village and their right wing by a rambling stone fence. "Old Gabe," as they called him in the old days at Virginia Military Institute, was in command of Wharton's Brigade on the Confederate left and in the center the 62d Virginia Infantry was supported by the cadet regiment. On the right was Echol's Brigade and the cavalry.

When their gallant Commandant, Colonel Shipp, finally gave the order to advance, the cadet sergeant-major, as cool as on parade duty at Lexington, ran out forty paces in advance to act as guide and marker. There he would have fearlessly remained had the Colonel not ordered him back on the line. Dressing on the handsome white and gold regimental standard with the



portrait of Washington, the cadets advanced with the peculiar quick step of the French infantry, which made Sigel's Germans opposing them think the cadets were foreign mercenaries, they charged like grizzled veterans in full range of the Federal artillery, engaged the enemy in front, and drove them from their strong position.

Once, twice, thrice they rallied for a new charge and each time the field across which they advanced was strewn with their dead and wounded. In the final charge they began to waver, as did the veterans near them, before the cruel fire of canister and shrapnel. They saw brave Colonel Shipp fall and in the confusion they sank to their knees and fired from that position. Hon. John S. Wise, a member of the cadet corps, in his dramatic story of the battle says: "Some one exclaimed, 'Fall back and rally on Edgar's battalion!' Several boys moved to obey. Pizzini, the first sergeant of B Company with his Corsican blood at the boiling point, cocked his rifle and proclaimed that he would shoot the first man who ran. . . . Manifestly they must charge or fall back. And charge it was; for at that moment Henry Wise, 'Old Chinock,' beloved by every boy in the command, sprang to his feet, shouted out the command to rise up and charge, and moving in advance of the lines led the cadet corps forward to the guns."

So determined was the onslaught of the Virginia



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Military Institute boy soldiers that the Federal gunners fled, leaving them in possession of the battery, the crowning achievement of a glorious day which won for them the plaudits of their comrades in arms, the special commendation of the Confederate President and a new stand of colors from the Governor of Virginia when they were reviewed in Richmond before the capitol.

After the battle of Newmarket the boys marched back to Lexington and hardly got the smoke of real battle out of their eyes in the routine of mimic warfare and textbook grind when down the valley came General Hunter's invading troops opposed only by a few Confederate companies. The cadets' position as defenders of their beloved Institute was untenable and on their retreat to Balcony Falls they were filled with inexpressible sadness as they saw the turrets of the old school buildings shattered by Federal artillery and bursting into flame.

### THE ROUGH RIDERS—1ST U. S. VOLUNTEER CAVALRY

*"All who are brave follow me."*

LIEUTENANT ORD AT SAN JUAN.

Just after the blowing up of the *Maine* there gathered in New Mexico, Arizona, Oklahoma and Indian Territories, not then States of the Union, to be mustered into the United States Army a unique body of recruits, most

of whom had already little to learn about riding, shooting, or following a trail. These Centaurs needed only the discipline of the camp and drill to make them an efficient fighting regiment.

Congress, at the outbreak of the Spanish War, had authorized the raising of three regiments of ready-made cavalry, recruited from the ranchmen and seasoned hunters of the Rockies and the plains. Stiff and crackling official orders called them "1st U. S. Volunteer Cavalry," but a doting public who followed their raising with nation-wide enthusiasm aptly called them the "Rough Riders." Colonel Roosevelt and his brother officers might protest in vain, the Rough Riders they remained to the end of their glorious chapter.

There were many of these ready-made cavalry men like little McGinty, the Oklahoma bronco buster, who knew everything about horses and little about marching. In the different troops were ranchmen, pony express riders, Rocky Mountain stage drivers, hardy pioneers who had hunted the buffalo herds, traffic policemen, steeple-chase riders and soldiers of fortune. Among these weather-beaten fighting men was "Bucky" O'Neill, Captain of Troop A, and, though he did not say so himself, a famous frontier sheriff and hunter of "bad" men and Apaches. In other troops there were Cherokees, Choc-taws, Creeks, and a full-blooded Pawnee athlete, foot-

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ball heroes and crewmen from the colleges, clubmen from New York and Boston and "Rattlesnake Pete" from the Moqui country, who had molted off the last half of his name.

Over this seasoned fighting material was Colonel Leonard Wood, who had earned the Medal of Honor fighting Apaches, and Lieutenant-Colonel Roosevelt, who had been a deputy marshal in the cow country and up to the time of war's alarms was Assistant Secretary of the Navy.

Late in June the transports landed the Rough Riders on the Cuban shores before Santiago; with the exception of the 2d Massachusetts and the 71st New York, all the rest of the troops were regulars, and the regiment was brigaded with the 1st (white) and the 10th (colored) regular cavalry. Two brigades were under Major General Joe Wheeler, the gallant Confederate cavalryman. As soon as the Spanish rear guard was located at Las Guasimas, he ordered General Young to move forward without waiting for supplies and strike the enemy the next morning. The hilly jungle before them was so thick that as the troops advanced up the mountain paths and through the swamps, where grewsome landcrabs scuttled into their coverts, they were obliged to march in single file. Though they had only a light marching kit it was not suitable for tropical campaigning and in the

intense heat the cowboys and other troopers unused to marching suffered terribly.

Just where the mountain path of the Rough Riders joined that of the advancing Regulars the enemy suddenly fired upon the troopers from their hidden position; impossible to locate on account of the smokeless powder which they used. The Rough Riders pushed steadily on, one after another of their brave men falling, but seriously wounded as many of them were they propped themselves up against the trees, continuing to fire with deadly marksmanship, their position made doubly hazardous because of the black powder cartridges still used by our army.

The Rough Riders were soon joined by the colored Regulars and after two hours of fighting the Spaniards retreated. In this preliminary skirmish in which 964 cavalry were engaged sixteen troopers were killed and fifty-two wounded, and the army was two miles nearer to their goal, Santiago.

A week followed during which the Spaniards strengthened their two positions at El Caney to the north of the American Army, and at the San Juan Hills, a mile east of Santiago, defended by forts, rifle pits and blockhouses on the summit. The plan of battle had been for General Lawton to attack El Caney and then to march upon the flank and rear of the San Juan defenses while Wheeler



and Kent made a frontal attack. Lawton was nine hours bringing the Spaniards to terms at El Caney; and, in the meanwhile, the regiments drawn up before San Juan were waiting. Finally their position was intolerable on account of the deadly hail of the Mausers and the hidden dangers of the Spanish sharp-shooters. Lieutenant-Colonel Roosevelt decided to take things in his own hands and mounted on his "Little Texas" called to his men to advance. In the confusion the brigades became hopelessly intermingled, the 9th Regulars and the 10th Regulars joining with the Rough Riders in the charge. The standard bearer of the 3d had been shot down and, as they moved forward in column of troops, Sergeant George Berry, who carried the regimental colors of both the 10th and the 3d, called out, "Dress on the colors, boys, dress on the colors!" Brave Lieutenant Ord, who fell dead at the top of the hill, was urging his men into action, shouting, "All who are brave follow me."

On they rushed across the gulleys and up the steep hill, through the tall grass, lending their comrades a helping hand when they stumbled; Colonel Roosevelt, who had dismounted, was leading the van, followed by his own troopers and the colored 9th regiment with some of the 1st. They charged, reserving fire until they had crossed the deserted Spanish rifle pits, and put the



last defenders of the blockhouse on the summit to rout, placing the Stars and Stripes on the roof.

Two or three days later after the surrender of Santiago, the Rough Riders marched to El Caney and on August 6 embarked for New York where they were mustered out on September 15. "These children of

The 1st United States Volunteer Cavalry, or the "Rough Riders," as they are familiarly called, were among the first regiments to be equipped with khaki uniforms. They wore a slouch hat of drab felt with corps device and laced canvas leggings. The shoulder straps and pocket flaps of their khaki blouses were faced with cavalry yellow. The Rough Riders discarded the blouse in the Cuban engagements and fought in their blue flannel shirts set off by a neck cloth made from a loosely knotted blue polka-dotted handkerchief.



the dragon's blood," as Colonel Roosevelt called them, became veterans in a four months' campaign in which they had lost more men than any other regiment in the Spanish-American War.

## CHAPTER V

### THE REGIMENTS OF OLD PRUSSIA AND UNITED GERMANY

#### THE POTSDAM GIANT GRENADIERS

*"He who sends me tall soldiers can do with me whatever he likes."*

FREDERICK THE GREAT'S father, the first Frederick William, was exceeding fond of a bowl of Rhine nectar, a long pipeful of fragrant Latakia and the clink of the gold in his treasure chest, but his most absorbing pastime was the recruiting and drilling of his pet regiment of Giant Grenadiers, the Big Prussian Blues, or the long Potsdammers, as they were variously called.

Some of the front rank Grenadiers in the 1st Battalion, the Red Bodyguard of which Frederick was Colonel, were seven feet in their shoes and every one in the regiment was at least a six footer, not excepting the prize bassoonist, Pepusch, leader of the Band of Hautbois and the turbaned blackamoors who played the fifes.

At Wusterhausen, the royal hunting seat, near Berlin, when Frederick was Crown Prince, he amused himself by weeding out all the small men in the staff regiment, quartered there and substituting rustic giants. At the spring review at Potsdam when Frederick was a king at five and twenty, he made those Wusterhausen peasants the nucleus of the Giant Grenadiers which had two battalions of 600 men and grew in 1740 to three battalions with 3040 men.

Although the miserly king skimped even the royal commissary and sent all the Queen's plate to the mint, he spent during the period from 1713-1735 over \$12,000,000 in recruiting and equipping his pet regiment. One colossal Irishman, his special delight, was procured by his man-hunting agents for \$6000. He was fond of displaying them before his palace at Potsdam, and so vigorously had they been drilled that even the regimental mascot, a huge bear, knew the movements and commands. The Long Potsdammers were the model of all Prussian regiments and cadets from the armies of Europe joined their ranks for the training.

Ambassadors to the Prussian court who had special axes to grind could always win the royal favor by the gift of a few choice giants. The Czar's minister was fondly caressed for his annual tribute of 150 barbaric Muscovites in their sheepskin baldrics; the Saxon min-

ister celebrated His Eccentric Majesty's birthday by sending fine Turkish pipes, fragrant tobacco and a "seven-foot Cupid to bear them"; the Treaty of Hanover was made a reality by a present of twenty-four of the most strapping soldiers in Hungary, Croatia and Bohemia; the British minister to Berlin sent back to the foreign office in his official despatches a piece of pack-thread seven feet long, the measure of Frederick's tallest Grenadier, and George I, who desired to cement the cordial feeling between the Houses of Hanover and Brandenburg, sent back a brace of fifteen Irish giants.

So thoroughly did the recruiting officers scour the kingdom that the tall men in the universities trembled with apprehension. One law student of Halle was set upon by a press gang, thrown in a cart and trundled away to the barracks in spite of the timid protests of the proctors. While the Austrian Ambassador was on his way to Berlin his coach broke down and he made his way to the nearest town on foot. The Count was of no mean stature; and in passing a Prussian garrison he was seized and would have been on his way to join the Long Potsdammers had his identity not been revealed by his postilion's timely appearance.

When Jonas, the Giant Grenadier of seven feet who had been a Norwegian blacksmith, died, Frederick caused his effigy to be sculptured in marble on the façade



of the palace; and when twinges of gout forced him to stay away from the parade ground he would try his dabbler hand at painting the giants, signing the canvas, "*Fredericus Wilhelmus in tormentis pinxit.*"

In 1732 the Giant Grenadiers were formed into six companies, with flanking Grenadier companies of smaller stature, the tall battalion being in the center of the line. The officers of the regiments were of good size, but were not giants. The 1st and 2d battalions were quartered at Potsdam and the 3d at Brandenburg, of which the Prince Royal was the Colonel. Each battalion consisted of one Grenadier and six musketeer companies with a fife and drum corps, two almoners or chaplains, and four "unranked companies" of picked giants, their miter-shaped caps adding a foot to their colossal stature.

Frederick took good care that his playthings were not often exposed in the front of battle and their chief duties were to drill incessantly, keep their arms and accoutrements in order and to mount guard. Drill began at sunrise, with intervals of rest for three or four minutes. During the drill the regiment was put through the "fifty-four movements" under the close inspection of the King, whose microscopic vision took in every detail of their equipment—even the Japanned cockades on the officer's horses, his own invention.

In order to keep the officers and men in the pink of efficiency he would have alarms sounded sometimes three times a night, and the mounted officers were given only eight minutes in which to saddle their horses and find their place in the line. The King always wore the uniform of his Great Grenadiers and no garrison drill-master was more of a martinet in exacting absolute pre-

The Big Prussian Blues or Giant Grenadiers were newly uniformed every year in tall cloth Grenadier caps of red and blue, blue coats of coarse cloth with gold frogs, scarlet facings and gilt copper buttons. Their waistcoats and breeches were of scarlet. They wore long white gaiters, black garters and square-toed shoes and an enormous cartridge box of black leather was hung on a buff leather belt. Armed with short swords and muskets, these favorite guards of the Prussian king were the most famous of their time.



cision in this school of the soldier. George II of England often spoke of him as "his brother, the drill sergeant."

Every new recruit was assigned to his company by the King personally and graded according to his height. His uniform, from his tall grenadier cap to his immense square-toed boots, was given minute attention. His pay and bonus were allotted to him and he was sent to the mess-hall to a fare that was a banquet in comparison to rations of other Prussian infantrymen.

In 1740, the King was stricken with a fatal malady and took leave of his "beloved children in blue," who, it must be confessed, rejoiced at the prospect of being freed from military bondage, for the Grenadiers were not *happy* children. His last instructions in regard to his funeral were that all the officers and men should have brand new uniforms and his cortége should be escorted by the entire regiment with guns reversed, the coffin borne by eight Captains of Grenadiers. "See to it," he said, with ironical humor, "that the rascals who fire the volley over my grave do not hang fire."

On his deathbed the King had one of his newly uniformed Grenadiers brought before him and sadly with dimming eyes confessed to the Crown Prince, the Great Frederick, who was later to ascend the throne and lead the army of Prussia to splendid victories, that his hobby

had been a prodigal waste and a shallow vanity and urged him to disband the regiment as soon as he was dead.

#### FREDERICK THE GREAT'S GRENADIER BATTALION

*"My motto is to die or conquer; in other cases there is a middle course, in mine there is none."*

FREDERICK THE GREAT.

When the Giant Grenadiers were to be disbanded after the death of the first Frederick, his son Frederick the Great, who was, as you recall, the Colonel of the Brandenburg battalion of the Long Potsdammers, incorporated many of the big fellows in his Grenadier Guards, or Guard Regiment. They were known as the Grenadier Guards and still exist in the German Army as the 1st Foot Guards. These Grenadier battalions were composed of the Grenadier companies taken from every two infantry regiments. These guards were the strongest troops in the King's Army, being conspicuous for their intelligence, perseverance and heroism. For commanders they had men whose names are the most notable in the Prussian Army of that time, such as Fougué, Wedell and Winterfeldt.

Frederick was a great soldier because he had the imagination to put himself in the place of the men in the ranks. He lived their life, arbitrated their disputes,



commended their valor in person; and he possessed above all things a boyish enthusiasm in the organization and discipline of his troops and an open mind that did not fail to take the benefit of wise counsel. Large camps were formed every year where he labored unceasingly to make his Grenadiers "living batteries" and "walking bastions" and his cavalry a fighting machine of quick action and absolute precision.

In counsel with his generals just before the battle of Leuthen, December 5, 1757, Frederick exclaimed, "That cavalry regiment, which does not immediately, on being ordered, burst impetuously on the foe, I shall immediately after the battle, dismount, and convert it into an infantry regiment. The battalion of infantry which, be the obstacles what they may, for a moment halts, shall lose its standards and swords, and I shall cut the facings from its uniform. We shall soon have beaten the enemy, and meet again."

Frederick learned his first hard lesson at Mollwitz in April, 1741. In his own account of the fight he says the Austrian Field Marshal and himself vied with each other to see which of them could make the worst mistake. Mollwitz was, however, a glorious day for the Grenadiers, though their muster roll recorded on the day after the battle only 180 men fit for duty, half the officers and 800 men having been killed. Of the old



Prince of Dessau's fighting machine in the final onslaught, an Austrian general says, "Then our army lost heart altogether, the infantry could not be prevailed upon to stand and the cavalry would not face the enemy again."

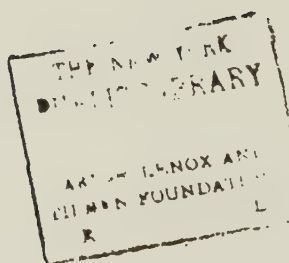
The infantry at Mollwitz on those eventful two days were in two divisions, the first under Schwerin and the second under Prince Leopold of Anhalt. Cavalry had been placed on the right wing and on the left wing was a swamp. In the preliminary battle formation two battalions of Grenadiers were placed between two squadrons of cavalry. The whirlwind charge of the Austrian general's cavalry on Schulenbergr's dragoons so scattered them that Frederick found himself alone with only the protection of his Gendarmes. Urged by his generals that disaster was near, he hurried from the field. In so doing he missed the splendid stand of his Grenadiers, who presented an inflexible hedge of steel against which the Austrian cavalry were hurled again and again. With quick musket fire the Grenadiers held their ground in the swarm of horsemen until their cartridges gave out. Then with fixed bayonets under the command of the veteran General Schwerin they marched across the field with drums beating to the second attack. At Mollwitz, Frederick's first school of tactics, his army lost 2500 killed, including his cousin, and 3000 wounded.

At the opening of the Second Silesian War in 1744, Frederick's army was forced from lack of provisions to retire across the Elbe, hoping the Austrians would take up winter quarters and give him time to recover from the campaign. Spies had kept the Austrians informed of what was going on in the Prussian camp. Unexpectedly a strong force of Austrians crossed the stream, but were feebly opposed until they faced the Grenadier Battalion of Life Guards under Lieutenant-Colonel Wedell. This little band of infantry withstood the attacks of the Austrian Grenadiers for five hours. This deed won the applause of the chivalrous Austrian Prince, Charles of Lorraine, who expressed his frank admiration for the "Prussian Leonidas," as the admiring people afterwards called Wedell. He said to his staff, "How happy would our Queen be had she in her army officers resembling this hero."

The Prince of Lorraine at Hohenfriedberg, sometimes called Striegau, in the last days of November, 1744, witnessed for himself the heroic fortitude of the Prussian Grenadiers against whom he hurled his cavalry without effect. Frederick himself mounted on his favorite horse advanced at the head of three battalions of his Grenadiers while the Austrian batteries mowed down great paths of men on either side of him. When he reached the heights of Striegau where he led the bayonet



THE PRUSSIAN GRENADIERS AT HOHENFRIEDBERG:  
Frederick the Great on his favorite charger at the head of his Grenadiers, advancing against the Austrians.





charge he had only 360 men. The Prince of Lorraine had reason to remember the Prussian Grenadiers at Hohenfriedberg for he lost 11,000 men—7000 prisoners and 4000 slain.

Another instance of Frederick's intrepidity occurred in the disastrous battle of Kollin on the 18th of June, 1757, in which his Grenadiers acquitted themselves with glory. This was the first severe defeat his Guard had known. In striving to rally his dismayed and retreating troops he advanced with but forty against a hostile battery. These devoted soldiers made a strong resistance, but were forced to fly beneath a shower of bullets. This left the King only his escort of a few aides-de-camp and as Frederick stood curiously meditative in front of the Austrian battery one of the officers inquired, "Sire, do you mean to capture the battery single-handed?" Whereupon he calmly surveyed the redoubt from which the bullets fell like hail and then turning his horse's head rode slowly and dejectedly toward the remnant of his army, where he reluctantly gave the order to retreat.

His gloom over the defeat at Kollin filled him with intense sadness and as he sat by himself at camp, aimlessly drawing figures in the sand with his cane, his glance fell upon a group of his Grenadiers, and his eyes filling with tears, he said, with the fond sympathy of a



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parent, "Children, this has been a sad day for you." They replied that they had been badly led; "Have but patience," said the King, "and I'll set all to rights." Frederick's loss in this his first defeat amounted to nearly 14,000 men, almost twice that of the enemy, but far more important at this period in the Seven Years' War was the loss of confidence and self-reliance in his almost invincible army, that only future victories could restore.

### THE SEYDLITZ CUIRASSIERS

The energetic and daring youth, who commanded the regiment of cavalry that in Frederick the Great's reign was to be the model for the armies of the world, almost lived on horseback when he was a stripling in his native town. At the age of seven, he startled the graybeards by riding his little pony between the swiftly whirling sails of a windmill. They had little reason to worry about the future of the impetuous William, for at twenty-three he learned the secret of combining judgment with tremendous vigor and energy. A major at twenty and three, he had already distinguished himself in several hard-fought battles.

He early attracted the attention of Frederick, when, as Captain of the Guard, he had made the bold statement that an officer of cavalry need never surrender

unless his horse was killed. The King quickly put him to the test and stopping him in the middle of a bridge said,

"Suppose this escort which surrounds you were enemies. You would not attempt to pass by us by force. What would you do?"

Without a word Seydlitz plunged his spurs into his horse and jumped this splendidly trained charger over the rail into the river. Returning to the escort, he saluted the King, saying, "Sire, this is my reply."

The exploits of Frederick's two famous cavalry leaders, Ziethen of the Hussars and Seydlitz of the Cuirassiers, more than any other factor, outside of the King's courage and military genius, were responsible for the making of a first-class power out of the little kingdom of Prussia. The Seydlitz Cuirassiers who won such renown at Zorndorf in 1758 and in other great battles had formerly been under the command of Colonel von Ruchow and had been in the thick of the fight at Hohenfriedberg, Kunnersdorf, and Hennersdorf where three flags and a standard were captured.

Under Friedrich Wilhelm von Seydlitz, after whom the regiment was named, these daring horsemen won the gratitude of their fellow countrymen for their prowess at Kollin, Rossbach, Leuthen, and Hochkirch where they covered the retreat. Six battle flags were

captured by them at Leignitz, and at Torgau they shared honors with Ziethen's Hussars. The last charge at Freiburg which ended the Seven Years' War was also made by the Cuirassiers and by their brilliant charge at Rossbach in 1757, they were able to outflank the French and rout them before ten battalions of their comrades in arms had fired a single shot.

Seydlitz with his gallant squadrons who were in the van of battle at Rossbach found the French infantry columns with cavalry at their head upon the battle line before his infantry support had time to come up. He did not delay, but drawing the Cuirassiers into a long line, he rode in front of them where he could be easily seen by the whole division and tossed his tobacco pipe in the air, the signal for the onset. The French were completely overthrown and in the two hours' conflict that ensued the French were forced to retreat to the Rhine, leaving the greater part of their baggage trains behind them.

There was great rejoicing in Prussia after this unexampled victory and the brave Seydlitz whose arm had been shattered by a musket ball received the highest mark of his king's favor, the Order of the Black Eagle, and was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-General.

At Gotha with the aid of the resourceful Ziethen, Seydlitz took a French camp which had abandoned it-

self to the light frivolities of their nation. It was an amusing strategy. He ordered Ziethen to dismount two of his squadrons to simulate infantry and, with the others mounted, deceived the French into thinking the whole Prussian army had suddenly appeared. Ziethen charging at full gallop and the dismounted troopers following with wild battle cries they forced the terrified commander and his generals to mount their horses and escape, leaving all their fine equipment behind. These magnificent adornments of the French dandy soldiers, wigs, pomatum, rouge, dressing gowns, shawls and parrots, fell into the hands of the scornful Hussars who dressed themselves in the court trumpery and celebrated the bloodless victory with mad revelry.

The Russians at Zorndorf found that their fighting tactics which had been so successful with the Turks were of little use against the onslaughts of Frederick's trained infantry and his cavalry under Seydlitz. At the beginning of the battle the Russians formed a huge quadrangular figure with their cavalry and camp wagons in the center. The village of Zorndorf that lay between the two armies had been set on fire by the Cossacks and the Russians were unable to see the Prussian lines. Suddenly the Prussian army attacked this huge block of soldiers and camp followers, throwing the horses and wagons in the center into confusion, but



this mêlée so broke up the Prussian lines that the small bodies of infantry were left to fight alone. Fortunately Seydlitz and his cavalry came upon the scene just in time to take part in the most terrible fighting in the history of European warfare. After three hours of desperate hand-to-hand conflict, Seydlitz was able to withdraw his victorious troopers just in time to save the day a second time. A panic had seized the Prussian infantry on the left wing and they were fleeing from the field, when Seydlitz dashed with his troopers upon the advancing Russian hordes and drove them back in wild disorder.

Frederick with his reserve of veteran infantry had meanwhile joined the dense fighting mass of Russians, Prussian cavalry and foot. The dust and smoke hid Frederick from his men and they were able to locate him only by his rallying commands; his pages having been killed, he was fighting without an escort. Once when he was forced to dismount he grasped one of the standards of the regiment of von Bülow and led them in a charge against the Russians, calling to them, "Auf kinder! Folget mir, nicht aus liebe zu mir, aber für Gott und Vaterland." "Children follow me, not only because you love me, but for God and Fatherland." The Russians fought stubbornly until their ammunition was



exhausted, but the superior discipline of Frederick's troops in the end prevailed.

The last campaign of the Seven Years' War, which culminated with the battle of Freiburg, was fought under the handicap of a depleted treasury and inadequate food and equipment. In the previous six years the little kingdom of Prussia had with changing fortunes successfully withstood combinations of the great armies of Austria, Russia and France. In the early battles of 1762 the Prussians through weakness of their battalions were beginning to lose something of their old-time confidence and *esprit du corps*.

Prince Henry was in command of one of the four attacking columns at Freiburg and Seydlitz of another. Again the honor of Prussia was maintained by Seydlitz who put himself at the head of two battalions of Grenadiers and completely shattered the brave and stubborn Austrians with their support, the Hungarian Grenadiers. Then Seydlitz rode quickly to his old command the Cuirassiers and followed his first success by driving the enemy across the Mulde.

Although the Austrian cavalry had been routed and rendered useless by the murderous Prussian fire, two brigades of their veteran infantry could not be forced from their position though the Hussars charged them

with severe loss of officers and men. It was again the Cuirassiers of Seydlitz who were to win the day. Advancing with incredible speed and terrifying power they mowed down the first brigade of Austrian infantry, and, though the second brigade resisted stoutly, their onslaught was victorious. Turning about, the Cuirassiers were amazed to find that the first brigade had ral-

With heavy black cuirasses in front, white coats faced with blue, leather breeches and heavy cavalry boots the bold Seydlitz cuirassiers were typical of the heavy mounted regiments of the time of Frederick the Great's wars. Under the command of their great cavalry general they were the troops upon whom the Prussian monarch relied with safety when they were hurled against the foe in many of his hotly-contested battles.



lied and were forming a square with their shattered regiments.

Again with a wild cheer they charged for the third and last time and completely annihilated the remaining light battalions. But there was still more work for the tireless Cuirassiers. Leaving the Hussars to pursue the fugitives, they advanced and took two Austrian batteries and joining with other cavalry regiments of the Prussians pursued the fleeing Austrians to the gates of Freiburg.

General Seydlitz, the great and modest commander of Frederick's unrivaled cavalry, lived for ten years after the treaty of peace that ended the Seven Years' War and was buried near Namslau where a simple tombstone under the old oaks marks the grave of the beloved commander of Kuirassier regiment No. 8.

#### ZIETHEN'S HUSSARS

As a lieutenant of Dragoons, Hans Joachim von Ziethen had too much of the unbridled spirits of a young colt and he succeeded only in undisciplined exploits that brought his dismissal from the Prussian Army. Fortunately for young Ziethen and for the army, Frederick had a keen eye for recognizing merit and later when he reinstated him in the service and posted him to a Hussar corps, he took the first step in the education of one

of the most dashing and brilliant cavalry leaders that the world has ever known.

The second step was to send him to Austria to Baranyai, the cavalry expert, for at that time the tactics and training of light cavalry were known only to the Austrians. Young Ziethen was an apt pupil and he so improved upon his model that he later defeated his old tutor in the battle of Rothschloss in 1741. He was rapidly promoted and greatly distinguished himself for his gallantry and fearless charges in the first Silesian War. He became commander of the famous regiment of Hussars which is known in the German army to-day as von Ziethen Hussars No. 3.

Under his splendid training the Hussars of Frederick were brought to a high state of efficiency in discipline, dash and skirmish qualities. Ziethen never hesitated to execute the most daring commissions. At one time the Hungarians had a part of the Prussian army bottled up in Silesia so that Frederick could not get despatches to the Margrave Charles at the head of one of his divisions. Ziethen hit upon a daring plan. His Hussars had just received *dolmans* (jackets) which resembled those of the Imperial troops, so he quietly attached himself to an Austrian troop. Ziethen was not discovered until he was nearly through the enemy's lines and then making a brilliant dash he succeeded in getting



away, taking many Austrian officers with him as prisoners.

In the campaign of 1757 when Frederick swept down upon the Austrians in Bohemia and completely routed them at Prague, but with a loss of 12,000 men and the veteran General Schwerin, he suddenly found himself in a critical position near Kollin. The French had crossed the Rhine with a powerful army, the Russians, Swedes, and the army of the Germanic empire were preparing for war. The King was for once alarmed and Ziethen who had been scouting around the outposts of the enemy discovered that the outnumbering army of Austria was strongly entrenched near Kollin and Panian.

Frederick who had studied diligently all the campaigns of the great captains of history, drew up his army in the oblique line by which Epaminondas overcame the invincible Spartans, a plan of battle in which a weak force with prompt action could win over a stronger body. In the first onset the Prussian Grenadiers and Ziethen's Hussars fell upon the right wing of the Austrians and put them to rout, but in spite of their brave stand the day was irrevocably lost to Frederick who retired in despair.

At the battle of Leuthen, in 1757, one of the most glorious victories in Prussian annals where 27,000 men,



116 guns and 51 standards were captured from the Austrians, fifty Hussars with their captain were the personal escort of the King. Gathering them about him before the battle at headquarters, he said, "I shall expose myself more than usual this day during the battle; you, sir, with your fifty men, are to form my bodyguard. You are not to leave me for an instant, and to take care that I do not fall into the hands of the Canaille. Should I fall, cover my body quickly with your mantles and place it in a wagon, without mentioning the fact to any one. The battle is to be continued and the enemy beaten."

It was in the battle of Torgau in the Seven Years' War that Ziethen gained his greatest fame. His undertakings were always so successful that every one wanted to serve under "Father" Ziethen. Frederick had a great affection for his veteran Hussar and on one occasion when Ziethen was overcome by sleepless nights of marching and fighting he fell asleep by the bivouac fire. An officer arriving with despatches was about to waken him when the King who had been unobserved said softly, "Don't disturb my Ziethen, he is tired." During the march in his hardest campaigns Frederick won the devotion of his troops by being constantly at hand to watch over them. When weariness would cause them to straggle a bit he would call to them, "Exact,

children, exact"; to which they often made the reply, "Exactly, Fritz." His morning salutation was, "Good morning, children!", to which the ranks responded with a hearty chorus, "Good day, Fritz!"

At Torgau in November, 1760, Frederick's army of 44,000 men was opposed to the Imperial Army of Austria with upwards of 60,000 men. He could not delay because the Russians were marching to join their allies and Frederick knew he could not beat the combined armies. The battle raged with changing fortune. Two horses had already been shot under the King and he was once slightly wounded. He encouraged his shattered troops by saying, "Ziethen is in the enemy's rear, they will not venture to remain in their present position, so after all the battle is won."

His confidence in Father Ziethen was not misplaced, for during the night the gallant old Hussar had cut his way through the Austrians and taken their strong position. The King had often jested at the expense of Ziethen's "superstitions" which impelled him before making a charge to brandish his sabre in the form of a cross, invoking Heaven. Now when they met on the bloody field of Torgau, Frederick embraced the grizzled veteran and wept, unable to express his gratitude.

The close friendship and special regard of Frederick for his old Hussar general was shown on many occa-

sions. Once, in 1784, at a reception in Berlin the veteran of eighty-five years was warmly greeted by the King, who told him that he felt exceedingly distressed at his having taken the trouble to mount so many flights of steps, and then inquired after his health. "Right good, your Majesty," was the veteran's reply. "I relish



Old von Ziethen's regiments wore the showiest uniforms in the army of the great Frederick, with tall brown fur caps, white plumes and hanging cloth top of red. With red jackets, blue hanging pelisses, tight-fitting breeches of blue and hussar boots they made a conspicuous corps, as with their veteran general, they charged and, on many occasions, turned the tide of battle in favor of their beloved soldier king.

both meat and drink still, but feel my strength gradually waning." "I'm glad," said Frederick, "to hear the first part of your statement, but you must be tired standing," whereupon he ordered a chair to be brought and insisted on old Ziethen's being seated, saying, "Sit down, old Father, otherwise I shall go away, for I do not want to be burdensome to you in any way." Ziethen finally sat down and his sovereign stood for a long time at his side conversing with him.

Ziethen's name has lived in the Prussian army until our time, although the regimental number in the army list has been changed at various times. In all the wars of the Kingdom of Prussia or the German Empire, the Ziethen Hussars have nobly sustained the renown of the great Hussar General.

#### LUETZOW'S JÄGERS—THE FREE CORPS

The German schoolboys who love to recite the famous battle song "To My Sword" and the other martial ballads of Theodor Körner, the poet of Luetzow's Corps, delight in reading of the mad exploits of the daring horsemen who composed the "Free Corps."

There was no monotony about life in this daredevil guerilla regiment, composed as it was of youthful students, artists, poets, and others full of the zest for adventure. The Luetzowers maintained rigid discipline



on the march and in the line of battle. Once in the bivouac they threw off the stern mask of war and devoted themselves to various high jinks, dancing, burlesques and frolic pastimes that made the camp resound with revelry.

In the memoirs of a Luetzower, Dr. Wenzel Krimer, that have just come to light, we see through the eyes of a young medical officer the unique fighting tactics and the picturesque camp life of the Luetzow Jägers.

"You might see men in long shirts and cloths wound around their heads like turbans, masquerading as women, while others discussed the strategical points of the campaign or washed their clothing or wrote heart-broken letters to faraway sweethearts, or turned somersaults, or acted as 'Louis XIV and his court' with such grandeur and ceremony that you would have split your sides with laughter, or imitated a Berlin washerwoman and her dialect, or held a funeral service over a fox.

"The method of fighting of these strange little people was certainly remarkable. For them to attack in a pitched battle with closed ranks was out of the question. As a rule they hurled themselves like a mob of bloodhounds on the enemy, or else scattered to the four winds, hid behind hedges, trees, bushes, ditches, or furrows, and, if there were none of these available, lay flat on the ground so that the enemy's bullets could do them



scarcely any harm and a column advancing in close order could not get at them, and then, with deadly aim, they would cause havoc in ranks of the foe."

Luetzow had been an officer in the Prussian army, but left it after the government had made the humiliating treaty of Tilsit. In 1811 he returned to the army and was permitted to organize this famous "Free Corps," composed of infantry, cavalry and Tyrolese sharpshooters. The Luetzow Corps operated in the rear of the French Army and played a very important part in the campaign of 1813-1814, in which Germany wrested her independence from France. They rendered great assistance to the staff of the Prussian army by their daring scouting expeditions into the enemy's territory, destroying their supplies and ammunition trains.

The secret-service detail of the corps was completely in touch with all the movements of the French army. The picked men who were spies had a very ingenious system of communication with each other. They had a code of innocent looking symbols generally written on walls and fences which enabled the daring Luetzower's comrades to locate the spy and to ascertain the enemy's movements. On one occasion when Dr. Krimer was on a reconnaissance within the French lines he was surprised to receive from a messenger a piece of Dutch cheese carved with code symbols which read, "At the

bridge in Kahla, April 5, noon, Schmidt and I are here with fifteen others. Eighty infantry men of the enemy are before us. Attack them with the sword at six to-night. You can destroy them."

At Kitzen the whole Free Corps were caught without any supporting troops or means of escape and the French nearly annihilated them. Luetzow himself was wounded, but managed to cut his way out of the trap and reach his lines.

Luetzow after this disaster set about to reorganize and recruit his corps to the former fighting strength. The new regiments had the first test of blood and iron at Gadebusch where the poet of the Free Corps, the gallant Körner, was killed and at Gohrde where Luetzow was again seriously wounded. They were next sent to Denmark and were at the siege of Jülich. In 1814 Luetzow fell into the hands of the French and did not escape until a few days before Waterloo. His daring Free Corps was reorganized as an infantry regiment, the 25th, and as a cavalry regiment, the 6th Uhlans.

#### GARDE DU CORPS

The most important cavalry regiments of Frederick the Great's army were the Cuirassiers and it was to the twelve regiments of the Cuirassiers that he made the ad-

dition of the Garde du Corps regiment. The old Garde du Corps was created by Frederick William I, making something more than an ornamental luxury out of the "palace guards," the well-known Trabant Guards of his father.

Frederick the Great did not lavish time and gold upon giant grenadiers, as we have seen, but applied himself to the development of the guards who were made into an élite regiment. At Zorndorf he said to Wackenitz, one of the bravest generals in his service, who had been watching with him the attack of the Russian cavalry on the Prussian infantry, "The situation looks bad for us, we will lose the battle." General Wackenitz saluted and answered with pride. "Your Majesty, I do not call the battle lost in which the Garde du Corps have not yet attacked."

"Do you mean that," said the King. "Then command them to attack."

The battle which we have described in the exploits of Seydlitz, was won by the overpowering cavalry charges. General von Seydlitz, however, in his report to the King after the battle said, that "The cavalry had fought heroically, but the Gardes du Corps under Wackenitz helped wonderfully."

The Garde du Corps of Germany occupies an independent position as a castle guard, as do the other

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household troops which belong individually to the sovereigns, while the army as a unit is under imperial control. The guards are the household troops of the King of Prussia and the heavy Cavalry regiment assumes the name and duties of a bodyguard. The senior foot guard regiment is part of the personal troops of the royal family.

In 1806 there were two cavalry and four infantry regiments in the guard, but influenced by the fame of Napoleon's Imperial Guard it was enlarged to include a corps of all arms of the service. At the present time it is a full army corps of picked men for the most part young and of superior intelligence and efficiency. The Garde du Corps has always maintained the high achievement of General Wackenitz's day.

### PRUSSIAN UHLANS

The recent forays of the German Uhlans into the Belgian territory illustrates the quick movements of this light cavalry and their special adaptability for scouting purposes and also as a "cavalry screen" for the operations of the army outposts. The Uhlans are of Asiatic origin and the Tartar colonists first introduced them into Poland and Lithuania. Uhlan comes from the Turkish word meaning "boy" and for many years the Uhlans in Europe retained their Turkish dress. At the outset they



were mounted on light, active Tartar ponies and armed with sabre, pistol, and a formidable lance, six and one-half feet in length. Fastened to the lance was a stout leather thong fastened to the left shoulder and going around the back so that it could be couched under the right arm. At the tip were gaudy trappings which fluttered at the rush of the charge and were intended to distract the horses. .

The Uhlans in the German army of to-day wear the distinctive flat-topped helmet, or Czapka, with white plume. Their uniform is a dark blue tunic and dark gray trousers. The Uhlans of the Guard have a similar uniform, with the addition of the distinctive double "guard" stripe and stripes upon the cuffs. When Marshal Saxe was reforming the French Army he re-established the lance as a cavalry weapon at about the time he invented the cadenced step for the infantry. He believed the cavalry should be lightly armed and equipped and so drilled in rapid movements and continuous exercise that they could always be ready for hard service. Marshal Saxe also invented a carbine for the Uhlans, carried on a bandolier. The lances at the time were twelve feet long and were used as tent poles to save weight and space in the baggage trains.

The Uhlan regiments were not conspicuously successful in the French Army in Marshal Saxe's time. How-



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ever, they reached a high degree of usefulness in the Prussian army and in the Austro-Prussian War of 1866. At Nachod, the battle was opened by the Prussian Uhlans and Dragoons, who were pitted against the heavy Austrian Cuirassiers. It was almost a return to the hand-to-hand struggle of the early days between lancers and swordsmen.

In the Franco-German War of 1870-71 the contending armies had large bodies of cavalry and it was in the battles against the French that the Prussian Uhlans won such renown. The North German Cavalry mustered in this war twenty-one Uhlan regiments. The French at this time had come to believe themselves invincible and they had not taken advantage of the lessons taught by the American Civil War; the Germans, however, had made a serious study of cavalry tactics employed by some of the brilliant Confederate and Federal horsemen and their superiority was evident on every field.

Small bodies of horsemen made many bold dashes into the French lines, bringing back very important information as to the enemy's position and strength. On one foray a company of Prussian Uhlans penetrated the French lines, as they have to-day on the Belgian border, and blew up the viaduct of the French railway. Even more daring was the exploit of Count Zeppelin who made his way through the French outposts with only

four picked officers and four privates. After riding boldly through the country for some time they were finally surprised by the 'tardy French patrol, but Count Zeppelin cut his way through their lines and got back to

What the Cossack is to the Russian army, the Uhlan is to the forces of Germany. With his long lance, carrying a two-colored pennon, heavy cavalry sword, and uniformed in blue, with heavy boots and small cap, or "Czapka," held by cords and tassels, the Uhlan precedes the other corps on scouting and foraging duties, often penetrating the ranks of the enemy to carry off prisoners or booty.



the Crown Prince's army with valuable information for his general.

Nancy, the capital of Lorraine, was captured by another brilliant dash by a squad of six Uhlans who were soon followed by the rest of their regiments. So perfect was the discipline and action of the light cavalry of Prussia that Marshal MacMahon was often cut off from his main army, and the "cavalry screen" of Uhlans and Hussars so protected the advancing Prussian army corps that the French were unable to locate their position or strength. It was not until the siege of Paris when the French sharpshooters were organized, the "Franc Tireurs," that the dangerous forays of the bold Prussian Uhlans were checked.

## CHAPTER VI

### THE INTREPID AND PICTURESQUE RUSSIANS

#### PETER THE GREAT'S CAVALRY

**W**HEN Peter the Great was crowned, Russia was almost an Oriental empire and he set about at once to bring her into the European family of great nations. More than this, he had at this time probably determined to drive the Turk out of Europe and he found when he took the throne only two cavalry and twenty-seven infantry regiments as the basis for military campaigns. Czar Peter believed in the cavalry arm of the service and his improvements were so rapid and extensive that in a comparatively short time he had 84,000 cavalymen of all kinds in his army.

The Czar and Charles XII of Sweden, two of the most resourceful monarchs and soldiers of the time had a struggle for supremacy in one of the most decisive battles of the world, at Poltava, in 1709. Charles gloried in hand-to-hand combats at full speed and deprived his cavalry of firearms that they might rely solely upon their speed and endurance. Peter had new ideas. He arranged his infantry support for the cavalry behind a

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series of parallel intrenchments and his splendid cavalry under Prince Mentchikoff and General Renzel charged in the intervals between the redoubts, to the dismay of the brave Swedes unused to this style of attack. King Charles having been badly wounded in an earlier battle led his troops from a camp litter, but in spite of his veteran guidance they were obliged to surrender and he with his escort escaped to Turkey.

One of the greatest cavalry regiments of Peter's army was the Dragoons, drilled to fight on foot with sword and bayonet, and on horseback, with long straight swords. Their uniform was most picturesque, blue coats with red or white facings, trousers of chamois leather, and a metal casque, or helmet, for headdress. The dismounted dragoons won great honors against the Swedes on the banks of the Rysta in 1708, where, with the Guard regiments, they captured an immense baggage train laden with valuable supplies.

The Czar, about 1763, sent a military commission to visit the army of the Great Frederick and as a result added Hussars and Carbineers to his corps. The Carbineers carried a long carbine and heavy swords, and the Hussars a sabre, pistol, and short carbine. Later he uniformed all the cavalry in leather breeches, black boots with big spurs, and gave them new swords with brass hilts carried in a leather scabbard. General Potemkin,



one of his great cavalry generals, added regiments of Chasseurs and Cossacks.

### THE COSSACKS

The Cossacks have always obeyed the summons of the Czar, and have played an important part in all the campaigns of Russia, especially the Don Cossacks, the Ural, the Zaporog, and the Yalek Cossacks, named for districts in which they were organized. In Peter the Great's army in the early eighteenth century, there were companies of Cossacks attached to each regiment of Cuirassiers, or heavy cavalry. When Russia was the ally of Prussia in the Napoleonic wars in Poland and East Prussia, the Cossacks were used as are the Uhlans to-day, as a light cavalry "screen." At the battle of Eylau in 1807, so closely contested that both the Russians and the French claimed the battle, the Cossacks attacked the French infantry in a blinding snowstorm with such disastrous results that only 1500 men out of 16,000 escaped destruction, and Napoleon himself was at one time in danger of being captured.

The French center was saved only by the Old Guard and a brigade of Murat's horse. Another snowstorm aided the right wing of the French who were supported by a grand cavalry charge that threw the Russians in disorder. Yet some of the impetuous cavalry charged

too far into the Russian lines and were destroyed by Platoff's Cossacks of the Don.

The Cossacks in this campaign by their constant forays day and night into the French lines finally forced Napoleon into winter quarters, his forage parties being unable any longer to obtain food from the surrounding country. In the later successful battles fought by Alexander I against Napoleon, the Cossacks of the Don under Platoff, and from other districts, were the greatest strength of the Russian army. At first they followed irregular fighting methods, each man for himself, but in later battles against the veteran troops of Napoleon they were trained to charge in good order.

Napoleon's Polish cavalry were no match for the Cossacks in the advance to Moscow in July, 1807. At the Battle of Borodino, at Katzbach, and at the Battle of the Nations at Leipsic, regiments of Cossacks fought with reckless bravery. Napoleon was forced to acknowledge the superiority of these wild riders and fearless fighters over his veteran light cavalry. During the Battle of Malo in Napoleon's operations around Moscow when he was riding along his lines he suddenly heard the cry of alarm, "Platoff's Cossacks are upon us." So sudden was the attack that Napoleon was saved only by his escort and the timely appearance of his Grenadiers à Cheval. In the campaign of 1813, Tchernicheff with his Cossacks

crossed the Elbe, reached Cassel by rapid marches and surprised the French King of Westphalia, Jerome Bonaparte, who fled from the kingdom. At which the Westphalians greatly rejoiced.

The Cossacks in the days of Czar Peter were armed with lances and swords and pistols carried in their girdle. They were mounted on swift horses of the best breed, and they used no spurs or whip. In the wars with the French they learned the use of the musket from their prisoners. Captain Nolan, the cavalry expert, says, "A hundred Cossacks make less noise than a single regular cavalry officer." In the modern Russian army the Cossacks number about 155 regiments of horse, of these about 65 are recruited from the Don. The Ural Cossacks have the special privilege of fishing in the Ural River.

#### COSSACKS OF THE GUARD

In the Cavalry regiments of the household troops of the Czar are the Cossacks of the Emperor, the Altaman and two squadrons of Ural Cossacks. An élite troop of Circassian Cossacks form the Emperor's special body-guard. The Red Cossacks of the Guard under Denizoff at Leipsic saved the day for the allies. When the French cavalry under the great leaders Murat and Maubourg tried to break the center of the Prussians and the

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Russians, the Emperor ordered up the Red Cossacks of the Guard who drove the French Cuirassiers back with great loss.



The most wonderful horsemen in the world, the Russian Cossack wears a uniform that is most picturesque in its national character. Tall conical astrakan caps, long skirted coats, with cartridge cases on the breast, boots with pointed toes of soft black leather, complete his uniform. Armed with carbine in a fur case, sabre, and dagger, when mounted on his intelligent steed, he forms a noted escort to the Czar and leads the army when in action.

### THE GUARD REGIMENTS

There are three divisions of the Guards and four of the Grenadiers selected from picked men. The regi-



ments are not numbered but bear some proper name. Two of the regiments, the Preobrajenski and the Semenovski, are the oldest in the army. They are recruited from men of the same type; the Preobrajenski has tall blondes, and the Semenovski are brunettes with blue eyes. The Paulovski Grenadiers, named for Emperor Paul, have long mustaches and wear tall grenadier hats. The Chevalier Guard is the crack regiment of the Guard, and dates back to Peter the Great's time. The Preobrajenski regiment, No. I of the Guard, is named for Peter the Great's native town and was created by him.

In the army of Emperor Alexander I, there were two regiments of Cuirassier Guards, one of Dragoons, one of Hussars, and one of Cossacks. At the battle of Borodino the Corps of Osterman, with the Preobrajenski and the Semenovski regiments as reserve, were in the front of battle. Grouchy in following up the early French successes advanced against these regiments, but was repulsed with great loss by two Russian cavalry regiments of the Guard.

What the "Little Father" expects of his soldiers in our day is best exemplified by the Soldier's Memento written by General Dragomiroff of Petrograd and distributed to all Russian soldiers in the Czar's army, parts of which have been translated below:

"Do not think of yourself, think of your comrades.



Under fire, scatter yourselves. March in groups under attack, for one must strike with the fist not with the fingers—foot helps foot, hand strengthens hand. One misfortune is no misfortune, two misfortunes are only half a misfortune. Breaking the ranks—that is misfortune! Only he is conquered who is afraid. Strike, do not ward off blows. In the battle, the soldier is sentinel: do not let your weapons fall from your hands, even in death. Take aim for each shot: shooting right and left only amuses the devil. Be careful with the cartridges, for if you shoot at distance you will find an empty case when you ought to have a full one. For a real soldier, thirty cartridges should suffice in the hottest fight. Pick up the cartridges of the wounded and dead. God protects the brave. The good soldier has no sides or back—the front is always to the enemy. Always face cavalry—let it come to 200 paces, fire, fix bayonets, stand firm. In war you will neither eat nor sleep your full, you will be worn out—that is war, and it is a difficult trade even for a soldier; but it is terrible for a soft soldier.

“Victory is not gained by one blow. Sometimes you will not succeed at the second or third—attack a fourth time, and more often if necessary, until you have gained your end. Never leave your place in a march. One minute and you are 120 steps behind. March gaily.

Rest is not even for all at bivouac. Some sleep, some watch. If you are in command, keep your men together solidly; give them reasonable orders, and do not command them as you would a brute. Begin by saying what they must do, so that every man will know where and why he goes. Die for your Faith, for the Tsar, for

Composed of the picked men of the Czar's dominions, the Preobrajenski, or first Guard Regiment, wear a uniform of their national dark green. The collar and cuffs of their buttonless Russian blouses are trimmed with red. Loose trousers, black astrakan caps, gray blanket worn over the shoulder, and long boots complete the simple uniform of the Guards, many of whom wear medals in reward of distinguished services.



Russia; the Church will pray for the dead, and also for those who will live to get honor and glory.

"Never ill-treat the inhabitant, he will supply your bread. The soldier is no brigand.

"Let your clothing and weapons be always in order. Take care of your gun, your cartridges, your biscuit, and your legs, as if they were your eyes. Wrap your feet well in linen,<sup>1</sup> and rub them with fat. It is good.

"The soldier must be strong, brave, firm, just and pious. Grant that God give him the victory. Heroes, God leads you—He is your General."

<sup>1</sup> The Russian soldier doesn't wear socks; long strips of linen wrapped around the feet serve in lieu of them.

## CHAPTER VII

### SOME REGIMENTS OF THE DUAL MONARCHY

THE Austrians found themselves beaten "three shots to one" at Mollwitz in the War of the Succession, because their Prussian antagonists had discarded the flimsy wooden ramrod for a more efficient iron one. Again in 1866 in the Austro-Prussian War they had quite overlooked the advance in military science and fought with the old muzzle loader while the Prussian infantry were equipped with the new breech loading "needle" gun.

These incidents typify the defects in organization which have handicapped the Dual Monarchy in her great wars. It is said, perhaps with justice, that the Austrians have always fought well when they were well led by brilliant Irishmen like Brown and Lacy, or by the greatest Marshal of Austria, the canny Scot, Loudon. With the exception of Traun who taught Frederick the Great the art of war, it is an amazing fact that there have been few successful leaders of Hungarian or Austrian birth. The Napoleonic Wars might have made a great soldier out of Archduke Charles had he possessed the

judgment to take advantage of his opportunities at Essling, when he could have beaten Napoleon; or, at Wagram when he hurriedly resigned and signed the armistice with the French before his resources were exhausted.

Nor is Austria wanting in the material which makes successful armies. The men of Tyrol, splendid physical giants of the mountains, the men of Corinthia, Styria; and since the peace of 1868, the men of Hungary, and the men of Croatia, Bohemia, Moravia and Galicia give the Austria of to-day some of the finest infantry and cavalry recruits in Europe.

#### MOUNTAIN REGIMENTS

In a war between Austria and Italy the Tyrol would probably be the first point of attack. The mountain fastnesses and defiles are capable of strong defensive operations as was shown in 1866 when von Kohne resisted Garibaldi's 40,000 men with his 16,000.

The best-known regiment of the mountain troops is the Emperor's Tyroler Jäger Regiment which is composed of ten battalions of four companies. There are also thirty-two field Jäger battalions that are independent of each other. The soldiers of the Tyrol serve for three years in the ranks and seven in the reserves. The Landwehr is formed of men from twenty to thirty-two years and of old soldiers for two years after their serv-



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ice has expired. The Landesschützen is a body of troops that cannot be called upon to go outside their district though they would do so under extraordinary conditions. The Landsturm consists of the men from eighteen to forty-five years who do not form a part of the

The Emperor Franz Joseph's Jägers and the other regiments of mountain troops that guard the Austrian Alps wear a complete uniform of gray with black accoutrements. Below the broad collar bearing the regimental device is festooned a green cord with ball tassels. The characteristic Jäger hat is set off by a striking plume of green cock's feathers.



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army of the Landwehr. They form in time of peace into local bands of from 50 to 100 men each.

The mounted national guard in the Tyrol, Voralberg, and Dalmatia are intended for ordnance posts and signal service. The ordnance men are enlisted from the Tyrol and Voralberg and the signal men from Dalmatia.

The Austrian infantry in the Alps take many long practise marches on snow shoes or skis. The skis are so arranged that they can be detached quickly in skirmish drill or extended order, when the soldiers must kneel on them and fire. The Alpine infantry became very adept in the use of the skis and snowshoes and can make the distance required in the practise march in half the time it could be covered by infantry without their aid.

### THE HOUSEHOLD TROOPS

The bodyguards which are the most elaborately uniformed troops in the Empire are the personal household guard of the Emperor and the Court. The regiments in the bodyguard are the First Archer's bodyguard, the Emperor's Hungarian bodyguard, Mounted Squadron of the bodyguard, Infantry Company of the bodyguard, and the Trabant bodyguard.

The Emperor's bodyguard is the ranking regiment of the Emperor's military household staff and is his personal escort on festive occasions. They are the troops

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that protect the Court and preserve order in the palaces and castles. The Mounted Squadron in addition to their escort duties have the special duty of firing the national salutes on holidays and anniversaries. The Infantry bodyguard serve as messengers and orderlies in the castles and palaces and frequently act as assistants to the Steward of the Royal Household. The bodyguard are recruited from the regular army and partly from deserving officers and non-commissioned officers who have been disabled as far as very active service is concerned.

### THE AUSTRIAN HUSSARS

The Hussars of the Kings of Hungary were the model for the first light cavalry regiments introduced into the Prussian army by Frederick the Great who saw their superiority over his heavy cavalry. The name comes from the Hungarian words "huss" "twentieth," and "ar" meaning "pay," derived from the application of an old fifteenth century law which required every twenty inhabitants to furnish one soldier.

The Hussars of the Austrian army to-day are used for light cavalry operations, foraging, and outpost service and their uniform is but slightly changed. They wear the gaily braided tunic and a fur-trimmed pelisse thrown jauntily over the shoulder and their weapons are

the rifle and sabre. The Hungarian bodyguard of the Emperor have magnificent and showy uniforms with many braid ornaments and the distinctive leopard skin pelisse. There are sixteen Hussar regiments in the Austrian army recruited entirely from Hungary.

Frederick the Great in his own history of the Austrian wars continually refers to the troublesome Hungarian Hussars who frequently cut his armies off from their base and were able to patrol the hills and forests so thoroughly that his troops bottled up in camp were unable to forage for provisions. Particularly annoying were the Hussars in his "potato campaign" when he made the surrounding country his commissariat. Carlyle also points out in his biography of the great soldier, that, in the fall of 1744, the Hussars and other light cavalry made it almost impossible for Frederick's orderlies to get despatches to the distant commanders. At one time he was beside himself with rage because his mail-bag had not arrived from his ministers for four months.

In all probability the successes of Austria's great Field Marshal Traun were due in a large measure to the dash and quick movements of the Hussars and other light cavalry. Ziethen, brave and resourceful as he was, found he could not get a single scout through the Austrian lines when he and Wedell, the "Prussian Leonidas," were



holding the ford of the Elbe. At the battle of Sohr, the Hussars were used as a "cavalry screen" for the Austrian infantry, who were able to march around Frederick's right flank and put him in a hazardous position in range of the artillery. It was only the superior leadership and discipline of the Prussian troops that saved the day for them.

The Hungarian Hussars took part in the most important battle of the Seven Years' War, when a Prussian supply train of 4000 wagons well escorted by troops under Colonel Mosel was attacked and captured by General Loudon, soon to be Marshal Loudon. This had such a disastrous effect on Frederick's campaign that he was obliged to retreat to Bohemia.

In the Austro-Prussian War of 1866, there were fourteen Hussar regiments engaged who did not live up to their former record of achievement. In fact, the defeat of the Austrians at Königgrätz was due to their blunder in permitting the Prussian Guards to penetrate the lines and capture a strong position. Again under General Edelsheim at the battle of Gitchin, the Austrian Hussars made a glorious charge against the advancing Prussian infantry, but in this engagement they were fighting against heavy odds, as the Prussians were using for the first time the new needle gun, or breech loader, and were able to force the Hussars back with a storm of bullets,



while the second line of infantry was endeavoring to reload their more clumsy muzzle loaders.

### THE UHLANS

The light cavalry Uhlans, next to the Hussars of Hungary, are the most picturesque of the Austrian troops, with their plumed and flat-topped Czapka, their sky blue uniform coat and red breeches. Since 1884 they have not carried the lance. There are about nineteen Uhlan regiments in the army recruited largely from Poland and the Croto-Slavonians.

The Austrians had a regiment of Uhlans in the Seven Years' War, which were raised among the born riders of the Ukraine. In picturesque dress and manner of fighting they closely followed the Tartar colonists and Calmucks. Some of the troopers still carried bows and arrows, though in general they carried a lance, fifteen feet long, pistol and sabre; and, when they could get it, a carbine or musket. Their organization and freedom of movement was not unlike the Croats, the irregular cavalry that fought with the Austrians against Frederick.

With the Hussars, the Uhlans made foraging almost impossible for Frederick unless he sent out a whole regiment of infantry to disperse them. In October, 1744, when Frederick had entrenched himself at Konopisch, he tried time after time to get orders to his garri-

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sons at Frauenberg and other places too remote from him. Eight messengers he sent out were captured, and no orders arriving to the unsupported garrisons, they were stormed and 3000 men taken prisoners.

In the Austro-Prussian War of 1866, the cavalry of the Austrian army contained thirteen regiments of Uhlans, well organized and equipped. In this war there were no great charges of cavalry like the brilliant dashes of Ziethen and Seydlitz, in Frederick's wars, though there were desperate fights at close quarters.

### THE FRONTIER GUARD OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Out of the hardy mountaineers of her Balkan provinces, Austria has organized and drilled a frontier guard that have shown themselves alert, intelligent, and quickly adaptable to military duty. Like the Highlanders of Scotland, their constant outdoor life has given them great powers of endurance and skill with firearms.

The Bosnians are of Slavonian origin and among the races to be found in the military districts are Bosniaks, Servians, Croats, Greeks, Jews, Gipsies and Turks. The Turks once possessed these provinces, but their barbarous rule caused the Russo-Turkish War, and, since the Treaty of Berlin in 1878, they have been under Austrian protection.

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All males of twenty years must serve five years in the regular army and nine in the reserve. In 1881 the Inspector General established camps in various districts of the provinces, and in 1881 progress was so rapid that in 1885 a company was sent to the frontier from each district and one added each year thereafter. In 1888 the roster of the Austrian army shows that each battalion had seven companies.

The Greek and Roman Catholics among the officers wear the regulation infantry uniform with fatigue cap, but the Mohammedans cling to the more picturesque fez with military blouse, half boots and white or black silk vest. Like all warm blooded Slavic races they are capable of great enthusiasm and hard fighting.

### THE 14TH DRAGOONS, "THE BOY DRAGOONS"

The Windischgraetz, or the 14th Dragoons, originally recruited in the Netherlands, remained loyal to Austria though their estates were confiscated by the French as a penalty. Even to-day they take advantage of the special privilege, granted them by Maria Theresa, of appearing on duty with clean shaven lips. This famous regiment of beardless youth fought under Marshal Traun, at Kolin, in 1757, in the Seven Years' War.

Colonel de Thiennes, who had observed that the Saxon cavalry were hard pressed by Frederick's Prus-

sians, galloped up to the Marshal and begged for permission to lead the Dragoons into battle. Traun, who had a poor opinion of the mettle of his "Babies," finally consented, saying, "You can't do anything with these white faces." The Colonel, so it seems, had another theory about youth and enthusiasm, for he rode in front of the regiment and ordered them to charge, repeating with touches of his own, their Marshal's scornful words, and adding, "White faces, show that you know how to die, though you have no beards!" In the dauntless charge that followed the Saxon cavalry were able to recover themselves and the Prussians were driven back with heavy losses.

In the Danish campaign of 1864, at Viele, the 14th Dragoons were the advance guard of the Austrian army and being confronted by a strong force they were obliged to retreat to the cover of the woods; nevertheless, their valiant captain with only sixteen men issued forth again to ascertain the location of the enemy's outposts. Suddenly without warning a squadron of Danish Dragoons swooped down upon them, but their brave commander rallied them with the battle-cry, "Remember a Windischgraetz never retreats though the enemy is a hundredfold." In spite of the overwhelming odds they cut their way out of the trap and dashed back to their lines leaving only three men behind.



DIE BATTERIE DER TOTEN (THE BATTERY OF  
THE DEAD)

One of the heroes of the Austro-Prussian War of 1866 is Lieut. General Merkel who wears to-day the Order of the Iron Cross and shares with private Schunk (now an officer) the distinction of being the only two survivors of the martyrdom at Chlum. The famous battle picture, "The Battery of the Dead," celebrates the splendid heroism and sacrifice of Captain von Groeben and his handful of artillerymen, who served their guns in face of certain death, while their comrades of the other batteries retreated to a safe position.

The Prussians were supposed to be at Chlum miles away from the Austrian lines, when they unexpectedly began to menace the batteries with the fire of their infantry equipped with the new and deadly "needle-guns." Ordering the other batteries to retreat, Captain von Groeben led the remaining artillerymen in a bold charge forward to the apple orchards of Chlum. When they had advanced a part of the way Captain Groeben's battery began an intermittent fire. Owing to the lack of ammunition the gunners could not silence the terrible fire of the Prussians; and in the artillery and infantry duel which followed the guns were disabled, the gallant captain and all the gunners killed, save the two survivors,



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Lieutenant Merkel and Private Schunk who escaped to the Austrian lines.

### THE 8TH DRAGOONS

This dragoon regiment, the oldest of the Imperial Army, was raised during the Thirty Years' War and was known as the "Dampierre Cuirassiers." In June, 1619, their timely appearance saved Ferdinand II from the rebels who threatened his throne and his life. Like the English "Buffs," they have the peculiar privilege, given some royal regiments, of marching through the palace grounds with drums beating and flags flying. Their colonel has the right to violate all court procedure, if he should so desire, by appearing before the Emperor at any time without the ceremony of being announced.

### THE SCHWARZENBURG UHLANS, 2ND LANCERS

The 2nd Lancers are known to-day as the 2nd Uhlans of Franz II, and wear a distinctive grass green czapka. They were conspicuous in the wars of Austria with Napoleon, and it is one of the legends of military history that they rubbed grass upon their white czapkas to make them green. This was done to distinguish them from other Uhlans who had not made a very good record for themselves against the French.

## CHAPTER VIII

### THE DASHING BERSAGLIERI AND OTHER ITALIAN REGIMENTS

“THE Nation sees with pride these somber battalions dashing by like a tempest, their plumes waving in the breeze, and personifies in them the youth and regenerated strength of one beloved country.” This eloquent tribute to the pride of the Italian army made by General Ricotti in the Senate is upheld by the splendid traditions of this rapid marching light infantry.

General La Marmora, the great tactician and father of the Bersaglieri, was fond of relating to his staff how he won the special commendation for his pet regiments from the late King Victor Emmanuel. Once when the King was leaving Genoa, General La Marmora drew up a battalion of the Bersaglieri before him in salute. On his journey the King traveled forty miles in an English postchaise, changing horses four times. When he came to the end of his pilgrimage, he was amazed to find drawn up before him the dusty, begrimed regiments of Bersaglieri with their devoted General on his famous Arab charger. This rapid marching infantry had taken

a short cut and by climbing hills and fording streams had arrived there before him. The "Black Devils," as the Bersaglieri were known on account of their extraordinary agility, are light infantry sharpshooters and have been in existence since 1836, when they were raised by General La Marmora, then of the Sardinian Army. When charging, the officers and men in the ranks rush forward, shouting in unison, "SAVOIA!"

Selected from picked men of athletic build, they can sustain the long marches and the quick running step which is the distinctive characteristic of this fast-moving corps of the Italian army. From the time of their organization they attracted the notice of other European drillmasters and were the inspiration of the French Chasseurs de Vincennes.

In their own country they became very popular and the opportunity to enter their ranks was eagerly coveted. At the end of the year 1848, there were five battalions of twenty companies; and five years later this force was doubled. Five of the battalions were in service in the Crimean War of 1855. On the right of the French troops they were victorious over the Russians at the battle of the Tchernaya. Under their brilliant founder and commander they made a glorious record for themselves in the wars for Italian Independence.

Their annals are full of individual exploits of daring.

A young lieutenant of the regiment named Sommaruga made himself famous at Custoza during the siege of Rome. In a bold dash to capture the Austrian colors, he grappled with the standard bearer and the two struggling men fell into a ravine. Two Croats came to the rescue, one stabbing the lieutenant with his bayonet, another striking him over the neck with his sword, and the third firing at him at close range; but through some super-human power he was able to escape with his trophy.

At the disastrous battle of Adowa in 1896, they remained at the top of Monte Raio, from noon until late in the evening. Having been shattered and wounded from early engagements, the hungry and exhausted Bersaglieri rallied to charge again and again under Colonel Compiani who fell in one of the fierce conflicts with the forces of Negas who greatly outnumbered them.

When the Po and the Arno have overflowed their banks and during the earthquakes, they have done marvelous peace duty in rendering rapid and effective aid to their suffering countrymen. In the recent cholera epidemic at Palermo their dauntless self-sacrifice will long be remembered by their grateful sovereign and his people.

The Bersaglieri have occupied an independent position in the Italian army and it is well for their country that they have not suffered greatly from a small military



budget which at times has reduced the efficiency of other regiments. The officers are men of high attainments and many a good officer is famed as poet and writer. As the name Bersaglieri indicates, the men in the ranks are expert marksmen who could ill be spared when Italy is called to defend her frontiers.

In their dark blue tunics and trousers with the crimson stripe, black glazed hat with their distinctive plume of cock's feathers, short white gaiters, heavy knapsack and russet leather accoutrements, the Bersaglieri make a striking appearance in the holiday celebrations and on parade, when they advance on the run or in quick cadence peculiar to them.





## THE ALPINE INFANTRY

The Infantry who guard the gates of Italy in the Austro-Swiss, Franco-Swiss, and Swiss frontiers are recruited exclusively from the strong limbed hunters, farmers and shepherds of the mountains. An officer of the frontier forces, Lieutenant Bertelli, in describing the splendid qualities of the Alpine mountaineer soldier, says, "He knows the crevasses and what to think of the rock that has been disturbed. . . . If there are three paths he chooses the center one. . . . Ask him the reason and he will answer you, 'I go to the right because the track on the left only leads to the spring close by. No, signor, I see certain marks on the ground which prove that flocks alone go that way by water. . . . I go to the left because that right hand track only leads to a charcoal burner's hut, those holes which you see on the path are made of the points of the sticks they carry.' A slight variation in the tint of the green vegetation discloses a spring to him. . . . If a voice repeated by many an echo reaches his ear, your mountaineer after simply turning his head will tell you at once where the voice comes from . . . from the noise of a torrent he will know whether it is fordable or not."

This is the same marvelous knowledge of Nature's

moods and signs that made the hunters and frontiersmen in the American army such efficient scouts and soldiers, and it is not strange that when Italy realized the necessity for guarding her mountain fastnesses that the Alpine infantry was recruited from the localities to be defended.

The Alpine infantry are intended primarily to make a quick defense of the frontier while the troops are mobilizing and therefore they are drilled with immediate action in view. From October to March they are at headquarters, and in summer they occupy the hill stations as far as the crest of the Alps. They devote a great deal of time in deploying theoretical lines of defense and how best to obstruct the path of an advancing enemy. They are, in fact, an "infantry screen" employed like the light cavalry of other countries to cover operations of the main army and to gain time for mobilization.

The Alpine infantry have the long tireless stride of the mountaineer. A recent study of the Italian army gives an instance of the wonderful endurance of the infantry on their practise marches. A company of men left one of the hill stations some 700 feet above the sea level one morning at four o'clock and marching through the snow often knee deep reached a point 3000 feet above

the sea level, and returning arrived at the hill station at six o'clock in the evening of the same day, taking only a slight rest of two hours.

The Alpine infantry was raised in 1872 and is uniformed like the other troops except for certain variations made necessary by their mode of life in the Alps and the distinctive Tyrolese hat with the raven's feather badge. There are in the peace establishment of the Alpine infantry about ten battalions, with five on the French frontier, one in the Swiss and the Franco-Swiss Alps, and three on the Austrian border.

#### CARABINIERI REALI

This well-known corps of gendarmes were organized in 1879 as a kind of military police such as existed in Frederick the Great's army. They supervised the recruiting and did police duty in camp. Privates in the Carabinieri serve five years with six years on the reserve list. There are eleven legions of regulars and a cadet legion consisting both of infantry and horse which are attached to the various headquarters of the army corps. They carry a rifle and revolver; and their old time uniform with its grotesque swallow-tailed coat and cocked hat with red plume has often been the target of the cartoonist. The original regiment of Carabinieri was said to have come from Piedmont. Both infantry and horse-

men do police and guard service, and, as they were intended as an army reserve, they have been sometimes called into action as heavy infantry. Like the Italian infantrymen they are small and compactly built, with good discipline and well adapted for their civic duties.

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## CHAPTER IX

### SWEDEN'S CAVALRY AND THE YELLOW REGIMENT

**G**USTAVUS ADOLPHUS, the "Lion of the North," was the great figure of the Thirty Years' War. He was looked upon by the generals of his time as a bold inventor of new ideas. His new ideas were in some instances the old systems revived, for he had been a diligent student of the campaigns of Alexander, Hannibal, and Cæsar. He did put all his troops into the same uniform, a vastly original notion in his day and reduced the unwieldy regiments of 3000 men to 1000 and made their columns six deep instead of twelve. He separated the musketeers from the pikemen and drilled the front rank to fire kneeling. Powder pouches and heavy muskets were discarded for cartridges and lighter weapons; and the triple battle line: first infantry, then cavalry, then artillery was substituted for the solid rectangle.

His greatest achievement was his cavalry. In this he restudied the campaigns of Alexander and the ancients, threw away the heavy equipment and retained only the cuirass and the helmet and taught them hand-to-hand



fighting, making them the best horsemen in Europe. His antagonists Tilly and Wallenstein kept to the old fashions of heavy armor and weapons and the solid columns. Gustavus, with his new ideas adapted from the ancients, was to teach them a lesson at Breitenfield where he was to disperse the Imperial army of 35,000 of Cuirassiers, Dragoons and Hussars. He respected Pappenheim as a bold cavalry officer, still he had a lesson even for him.

The three regiments of Scottish infantry in the Swedish army received the impact of Pappenheim's first charge and they drove him back. Again the Cuirassiers rallied to attack the Swedes who were advancing, but their heavy tactics were of no avail against the quick moving light cavalry. The King's army now came on the line with Gustavus commanding the right wing and at once came to close quarters in a hand-to-hand fight with Pappenheim, with the result that Pappenheim was driven from the field and Gustavus pursuing him, captured the Imperial artillery.

Meanwhile the Imperial right wing had routed the Saxon allies and Gustavus at once attacked the enemy's center, left uncovered by their pursuit of the retreating Saxons. The Cuirassiers supporting the center in vain tried to beat down the Swedish wall of infantry, the first rank of which fired while kneeling, the second

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stooping, and the third over the heads of the others. It was a terrible lesson for Tilly and Wallenstein when the battle was over and the rolls called.

At Lützen, November 6, 1632, it was much the same lesson for the Imperial army though with tragic circumstances for both armies. Gustavus, the soldier king, and the gallant Pappenheim, the hardest fighter in the Austrian service, were killed in battle.

The brave king at the head of his splendid cavalry having dispersed the Polish and the Croats, dashed to the relief of his hard-pressed infantry and outriding his men he was killed by a company of Croats who closed upon him. Pappenheim who had arrived at the scene of the battle late did much to restore confidence in the Austrian army by his fearless charges supported by Piccolomini's Cuirassiers.

Six times severely wounded he was on the seventh carried from the field. The bravery of Pappenheim and his comrades in arms was no match for the superior tactics of the Swedish King.

### "THE YELLOW REGIMENT" OF SWEDEN—KING'S LIFE GUARD

Sweden's famous "Boys of the Yellow Regiment" have had since their raising in 1612, a wonderful record for courage, endurance, and discipline. At Lützen in

1632 where they fought with the "Blue Brigade" and the "Swedish Brigade" their unflinching columns which had faced the enemy's terrible fire were found lying in rows, showing that in the face of death they had maintained their perfect formation and discipline.

The Yellow Regiment consisted at first of four companies of three hundred men. In each company there were thirty "nobles" whose special duty was to guard the King's person. The regiment was afterwards increased to thirteen companies of twenty-five hundred men. They were conspicuous in the wars in Russia from 1613 to 1627. Against the Poles in Danzig (Pomerania) in 1628 and during the whole of the Thirty Years' War the Regiment under Gustavus Adolphus maintained their ancient traditions, winning the special favor of the Lion of the North. After his death in the Battle of Lützen in 1632, in which the regiment was greatly depleted, they fought under Gustavus' generals in all the later battles.

In the Danish and German War from 1655-1679 and the wars of Charles XII in which Denmark, Poland and Russia fought to deprive Sweden of her dominions they were always in the van of the fighting. The "Yellow Regiment" embarked with the army of King Charles from Copenhagen in 1700 and were present in the series of successful campaigns which were so disastrous to the

allies that they were forced to suggest peace. At the Battle of Narva the "Yellow Regiment" charged at the head of the columns during a blinding snowstorm; and at the disastrous battle of Poltava, July, 1709, and the siege of Frederickshall in 1718 their services were conspicuous.

The regiment went through the Russian War of 1741-43, which failed through the incapacity of the Swedish civil leaders, and fought most of the battles of the campaign in Finland. They were again in Russia in 1788 and 1808. In 1813 in the final struggle with Napoleon, Sweden joined the allies, while Denmark took the part of France. With the Swedish Crown Prince, Jean Baptiste Bernadotte, they helped drive the Danes out of Holstein, and at the great battle of Leipsic and the other engagements of the Army of the Allies against Napoleon, their veteran companies won new honors for the "Yellow Boys." The regiment went to Norway in 1814 and since that time has been stationed at Stockholm. All the commissioned officers belong to the nobility and the Yellow Regiment is known to-day as Number 1 on the army rolls under the title, 1st Regiment of Guards.



The men of the Yellow Regiment wore a tall grenadier's hat having a brass front bearing the Royal Cipher, with long-hanging back of bright blue cloth. The coat and breeches were also bright blue; the facings and wide cuffs of the coat were brilliant yellow, which gave rise to the nickname the "Yellow Regiment." Black garters held long white stockings, while the square toed, buckled shoe of the period completed a uniform most characteristic of the early days in which the regiment won renown.





## CHAPTER X

### THE COLONIAL REGIMENTS OF CANADA AND INDIA

"Heavy the wheat fields lie beneath the heat  
Of August suns, ungarnered. Strength and worth  
Of vigorous laborer have all gone forth  
The warlike tide of foreign field to meet.  
Canada sends her farmers from the North  
To harvest in for England living wheat."

**W**HEN trouble threatened in the Transvaal in 1899 and the regiments of England were hurried to South Africa under Kitchener, and again in 1914 when this great soldier as Secretary of War sounded the call to arms, there was tremendous enthusiasm and general eagerness on the part of the Colonial troops to answer the summons of the Mother Country.

The gallantry of dashing Bruce Carruthers and his fearless squad of Colonials is only typical of the splendid heroism of the Canadian troops in the Boer War. In command of a detachment of the rear guard, Lieutenant Carruthers found himself surrounded and cut off by a band of the enemy. Out of his small patrol of 21 men, 6 were killed and 12 wounded, after inflicting

severe punishment upon the Boer guerrillas who greatly outnumbered them.

In the American War of the Revolution when the Canadians defended the invasion of Canada; at Lundy's Lane and other engagements of the War of 1812; with Lord Wolseley, when the voyageurs and trappers conducted the boat expedition up the Nile to the relief of Khartum; with Lord Roberts in the Afghan War; and in South Africa in the Zulu and the Boer Wars, the Canadian troops won constant mention in the official dispatches for their bravery and fighting qualities.

#### THE ROYAL CANADIAN REGIMENT

The "Sardinian" with 1000 men sent by Canada in her first contingent to the Boer War reached Cape Town in November, 1899. In this contingent was the Royal Canadian Regiment which was later brigaded with the Gordon Highlanders and the Shropshire Light Infantry in General Smith-Dorrien's famous 19th Brigade. The Royals first distinguished themselves at Sunnyside in a preliminary skirmish, and in February, 1900, at Paardeberg while supported by the "Gay Gordons," they attacked the Boers in the inky darkness of the early morning. They had crept within range of the Boer camp when they stumbled upon a wire entanglement hung with tin cans. At this warning the Boers in the

trenches, stretching out six hundred yards before them, delivered a deadly fire which forced the Canadians to retire to cover.

Captain Stairs, however, conceived a daring undertaking and managed in the darkness to reach a position on the river bank overlooking the Boer camp where his sixty-three sappers and miners erected earthworks. In the morning they poured a withering fire into Cronje's entrenchments so that he was forced to hoist the white flag and surrender 4100 men. The Canadians now began to take an important part in the operations of the English army in South Africa. They did efficient service under Lord Roberts on the march from Bloomfontein and in the campaign of Kroonstadt and Johannesburg. A report to the War Office during the Boer War says the Royal Canadian Regiment had marched 620 miles in about 8 months, much of the time on half rations; had taken part in the capture of ten towns; fought 10 battles in 27 days and 21 others in 30 days, marching during this campaign 327 miles.

#### ROYAL CANADIAN DRAGOONS

The heroic sacrifice of the "Battery of the Dead" in the Austro-Prussian War was repeated in the Boer War by Lieutenant Cockburn and a squad of Royal Canadian Dragoons. At the Komati River the English batteries

were forced to retreat and to cover this movement the Dragoons rode boldly against the advancing Boers, and in the fierce struggle which followed all the Dragoons that were not taken prisoners were either killed or wounded.

Sergeant Holland of the Dragoons who was serving a Colt gun in a sharp conflict with the Boer sharpshooters, managed to keep them at bay for some time, so effective was his fire; and when he saw that the enemy had approached too near for him to escape with the gun carriage, he boldly lifted the gun off the carriage and galloped away with it under his arm.

#### CANADIAN MOUNTED RIFLES AND STRATHCONA'S HORSE

Among the regiments in the second contingent of Canadian volunteers of 1220 men, which left for South Africa in various detachments, were Strathcona's Horse, a rough rider regiment raised and equipped by Lord Strathcona, and the Canadian Mounted Rifles. The Rifles were attached to Sir Redver Buller's force under the command of General Hutton. With Strathcona's Horse, they were in many conflicts in the progress of the campaign from Natal to Pretoria. One of the four Canadians to receive a Victoria Cross was Sergeant Richardson of Strathcona's Horse. His squadron sud-

denly found itself in danger of being cut off by the rapid advance of a superior force of the Boers and Sergeant Richardson was ordered to retire. Before doing so he rode his wounded horse within 300 yards of the Boer line, under heavy fire, picked up a wounded trooper and carried him back to the lines. The 2d Regiment of the Rifles under the command of Colonel Evans and Major Merritt covered 35 miles in 23 hours in the operations of the army in the vicinity of Hart's River in 1902.

The Canadian Parliament which assembled on August 18th gave its unqualified support to the present war policy of the Mother Country, all political differences were at once waived and preparations were begun for sending 31,200 men to the Continent, supported by a special war chest of fifty million dollars.

All the troops now assembled at Valcartier are to be sent to the front at once. Thus, including the Princess Patricia Light Infantry, the Canadian expeditionary force will number approximately 31,200 men and 7500 horses. It will comprise eleven batteries of horse and field artillery of six guns each. In addition, four heavy guns, sixty pounders, will go forward as well as a number of machine guns.

The peace establishment of the Canadian permanent army is composed of 3500 men with active militia of 75,000 men. There are 4 squadrons of calvary, 2 of



field artillery, 5 companies of engineers and a battalion of infantry.

### THE NATIVE REGIMENTS OF INDIA

"Swarthy the bands, dark-browed and fine of limb—  
Lo, like a cloud they rise against the sun.  
And men shall hear, before the war is done,  
How India chants the Empire's battle hymn.  
Link upon link, until the chain is one,  
They gather from the distant borders dim."

The Indian forces prior to the changes made by Lord Kitchener, when he was at the head of the native troops, consisted of the Bengal, Madras and Bombay armies; the Punjab Frontier Force, the Hyderabad Contingent and several independent regiments. The cavalry and infantry regiments of England's Eastern possessions are officered in the higher grades from the British army and are now numbered consecutively. In all probability the two divisions of native Indian troops mentioned by Premier Asquith in his recent Guildhall speech, who have been sent to France, are the Bengal Cavalry and regiments of Sikhs and Gurkhas, from the northern Indian provinces near the Himalyas. These native troops who distinguished themselves in the Afghan Wars are particularly successful when fighting in conjunction with white regiments.

## THE BENGAL CAVALRY

In the 39 regiments of cavalry in the Indian army there are about 20 regiments of Bengal Cavalry in which many nationalities and religious sects are represented. These differences of race and religion are indicated by the manner in which their turbans are folded. The Mohammedans wear a peaked skull cap under their turban and the Sikh tribes have a peculiar method of winding their turban so that one side bulges out more than the other.

Their uniform consists of an easy fitting blouse of various colors according to the regiment, around the waist of which is wound a shawl; the vari-colored turban, indicating sect and tribe; baggy trousers; blue serge puttees; ankle boots and spurs. The ankle boots are replaced, on parade duty by highly polished jackboots. Their arms consist of the carbine and sword; and in the Bengal Lancers, the troopers carry the regulation lance with fluttering pennons. The troop and company officers are natives; the highest rank of promotion attainable by the non-commissioned officer being the senior captain of a regiment.

## THE GURKHAS

The Gurkhas of the Bengal Infantry now number 20,000 men. They are a sturdy race of mountaineers

with Mongolian features and short, stocky figures, in general, resembling the Japanese. The name Gurkha comes from two Sanskrit words, "gur," meaning "cow," and "raks," meaning "to protect." They have splendid fighting qualities and delight in the manly athletic games and contests of the British soldier. When the British first occupied India they were wild freebooters living in the hills of Nepaul, whence they had been driven by the Mohammedan invasion. It took many hard campaigns of the Indian army to conquer the Gurkhas, but since their conquest they have been loyal soldiers of the Crown, even through the Mutiny and the Sepoy Rebellion.

The Gurkhas are equipped as sharpshooters and in addition carry their national weapon the "Krookrie," a broad bladed hunting-knife which used at close quarters is a savage weapon. Some of the most efficient regiments in the Indian army are the 2d Prince of Wales Own Gurkhas and the 3d and 5th Gurkhas. They have a special admiration for the Highlanders posted in India and, like the Sikhs, enjoy the music of the bagpipe. They have substituted the imported Highland pipe for their crude mountain instrument and each Gurkha regiment has its pipers.

## THE SIKHS

When Darius, the Persian, fought Alexander at Arbela, the ancestors of the Sikhs, the Bactrians, occupied the center of the line with their infantry, and on the left wing supported the Scythian cavalry. The Sikhs, like the Gurkhas, are Hindus, but of another religious sect whose caste rules are founded on the teachings of their "Gurus," or holy men, who have been known in India since the Reformation in Europe.

The regiments of orthodox Sikhs, which were once brigaded with the Punjab Infantry in the old Frontier force, are regarded by army authorities as the best disciplined and finest body of fighting men in the East. The 30,000 Kesadhari, or orthodox Sikhs, in the Indian native army follow the ritual of baptism and wear the long hair prescribed by the Gurus. Tobacco and wine are forbidden and as a consequence of their temperance they can sustain the hardest campaigns. During the Sepoy Mutiny of 1857, the Sikhs who had been wisely governed in Punjab by Sir John Lawrence helped him disarm the Sepoys, so that his garrison force could be sent to the relief of Delhi.

The Sikhs wear the long, loose-fitting blouse with different regimental facings, the tribal turban, loose trousers and, in many instances, the pointed Indian shoes

with turned up toes. The Loodianah Sikhs (the old 15th), the Punjabs (old 6th), the Duke of Cambridge's Own (the 20th Punjab) and the Punjab Pioneers, are some of the best known regiments who may be in France to-day fighting on the firing line with the Turcos and other French Colonial troops.

### THE SEPOYS

In the teachings of the Sepoy caste the cow is a sacred animal and a man who loses caste by touching a cow or eating the forbidden meat is not only disgraced, but is certain to suffer torment after death. In 1857 the native princes who were conspiring against the British government persuaded the Sepoys that the new cartridges served out to them were greased with cow's fat. At Meerut the native regiments massacred their officers and marched to Delhi, proclaiming a descendant of the Great Mogul, Emperor of India. The mutiny quickly spread over the Bengal provinces and was finally stamped out by the bravery of General Havelock at Lucknow and the timely appearance of Sir Colin Campbell who arrived with reinforcements from England.

In 1850 when the East India Company ruled India the uniform of the Sepoy was very uncomfortable for him. It was the tall shako and the tight fitting red coat and white trousers of the British Infantry. The Sepoy



regiments in the Bengal Infantry are now uniformed with some consideration for native prejudices and customs. The service uniform is khaki, but the parade uniform is a red, drab or rifle green blouse, with regimental facings, loose trousers, white gaiters and the tribal turban.

## CHAPTER XI

### THE "EVER VICTORIOUS ARMY" AND OTHER WORLD FAMOUS REGIMENTS

#### "CHINESE" GORDON AND HIS NATIVE REGIMENTS

**I**N all parts of the world are successful Englishmen once ragged urchins of the London slums, who honor the name of their elder brother, General Charles G. Gordon. From the school in his house in Gravesend he sent them out into the world inspired by his manly qualities and fired with new ambitions to make careers for themselves.

This modest and kindly hero of peace and war was only thirty when he was ordered to China to join the English and French allies in protecting the lives of foreign residents from the barbarous cruelties of the Emperor's troops. After the capture of the Summer Palace and the surrender of the Emperor, the country was still terrorized by a large army of rebels under a Chinese schoolmaster who styled himself the Heavenly King. The Royal pretender had been visited by a missionary who gave him a tract and talked with him about Heaven. The wily schoolmaster turned this suggestion

to his immediate advantage by persuading his ignorant followers that an angel had appointed him the Heavenly ambassador to rule China.

The English and French, having made a treaty of peace with the Chinese, did not at once march against the schoolmaster's army. So when the Heavenly King got bold enough to threaten the foreign section of Shanghai and alarmed the rich merchants they employed two American soldiers of fortune to raise troops to protect them. This was the beginning of the "Ever Victorious Army." The defenders and their commanders were, however, as bad as the rebels in permitting their men to plunder and pillage. One of the commanders was killed in battle and the other dismissed in disgrace. It was then that young Lieutenant Gordon was made a Mandarin and the new general of the "Ever Victorious Army," which he set about at once to reform.

The young soldier was a stern disciplinarian and fully equipped for his task, having made a detailed study of all the roads, water ways and mountain paths of China. He reorganized the regiments of the "Ever Victorious Army," forbidding plunder and putting at their head English and European officers. The Chinese soldiers were put in uniform and with each regiment was a pontoon corps to build boats and bridges.

The rebels laughed scornfully at the little army and the Heavenly King kept up his depredations. The organized fighting of Gordon's regiments and their persistent following up of the slightest advantage suddenly began to strike terror into the hearts of the rebels. In every engagement they saw the fearless Gordon marching unarmed well in advance of his front rank. Instead of a sword he carried a little cane which his Chinese followers and the rebels believed was his protection. His "Magic Wand of Victory," as they called it, inspired the army with the kind of courage that made them attack again and again the fortified towns of the Heavenly King until the rebels were beaten.

The young soldier's patience was often sorely tried by attempted mutiny among his Chinese troops who could hardly be restrained from pillaging and plundering the vanquished towns. His justice, however, was always tempered with mercy and his word was always his bond. Once near the close of his campaign with the Ever Victorious Army when his regiments were drawn up to attack the ancient city of Loochow, the rebel Wangs, or Kings, sent some officers with a flag of truce proposing to leave the gates of the city open and to aid him with their twenty thousand troops, if he would spare their lives. Gordon agreed to this, but news of an uprising in another part of the country forced him

to leave the city in charge of the Chinese Governor who promptly disregarded his orders and put the Wangs to death. Gordon was so enraged by this breach of faith, that, when the Emperor sought to pacify him with gold and costly gifts, he beat the royal messengers with his cane and drove them from his headquarters.

The sly schoolmaster's depleted army made its last stand at the city of Nanking, where he had a magnificent palace and much treasure pillaged from the merchants and caravans. After desperate fighting the Ever Victorious Army stormed the walls forty feet high and drove the Heavenly King into his inner palace where he murdered all his wives and killed himself. The siege ended the rebellion and General Gordon disbanded his regiments and returned to England where he was made Commander of the Royal Engineers at Gravesend. Later when the Khedive of Egypt wanted a man who had the honesty and courage to drive the Arab slave dealers out of his domains, he removed the native governor of the Soudan and made Gordon the "Little Khedive."

### THE PAPAL GUARD

In the sunny arbor of some Italian roadside inn you may still happen upon the old Papal soldiers who will weave for you a martial tale of the days when they



fought under the banner of the Crossed Keys. Pius IX, it is said, was a bold dragoon before he took Holy Orders and down to his day on the Papal throne the Guards had some fighting to do.

Pope Sixtus IV, it was, who first employed mercenary soldiers to guard the Vatican and Pontiff Julius II later made a contract, still in force, with the Swiss cantons of Lucerne and Zurich to supply for all time 250 soldiers for guard duty. The Swiss have always fulfilled their trust with dogged bravery and stubborn resistance. When the French under Constable de Bourbon invaded Rome in 1527, the Swiss defended the Vatican with splendid self-sacrifice until the Pope was able to escape to the Castle of St. Angelo. In 1884 when the mob attacked the palace, they saved the life of Pope Pius IX.

The Swiss Guard wear a uniform as wonderful in its riot of color as an old fashioned bed-quilt with stripes of black, yellow and red. There is a legend that Michael Angelo who designed the uniform may have enjoyed himself at their expense.

When the Swiss Guard was recruited to its full strength there were about 300 men commanded by a colonel, a captain, a lieutenant, six sergeants and six corporals. On festa days their gay yellow, red and blue banner hangs over the bronze door of the palace entrance. In the ceremonials and processions, they

wear their historic armor with halberds and swords, but in regular duty and drills they use modern weapons.

In the old days they were in receipt of various fees and at the end of twenty years' service were retired with a pension. They are all quartered in the Vatican either in apartments or barracks and are recruited from good families of slender means.

The Palatine Guard contend that their history goes back farther than that of the Swiss. A point that has never been settled and to avoid rivalry the Commander of the Palatine Guard and the Colonel of the Swiss Guard walk on each side of the Pope's litter, or *sedia gestatoria*, in the processional. The Palatine Guards is one of the largest regiments of the Papal army and is recruited from families of good standing in the neighborhood of the Vatican. The regiment consists of four companies of sixty men armed with bayonnetted rifles. Their principal duty is to keep back the crowd during processions and ceremonies, when the Pope goes to the Sistine Chapel, or to St. Peter's.

The Gardia Nobile, or Noble Guards, are scions of patrician families. One of the requirements of enlistment is that their forefathers shall have been nobles for thirteen generations. Their origin is to be traced to Paul IV who organized 100 men of the best families into the Cavalli Leggeri. The Gardia Nobile consists

of 75 men; 2 captains, a lieutenant, sub-lieutenant, 7 essenti, 2 corporals and 2 sergeants, 2 trumpeters and 50 guards, probably 'the most officered small body in the world.

The Palace Gendarmes were called Carabinieri by their founder, Pope Pius VII and were raised in 1815. He copied their uniform from the French guards. They comprise about 100 privates and have a very striking full dress uniform with bearskin shakos, gauntlets and shining jack boots. They are to be seen everywhere in the Vatican mounting guard in the gardens, loggias and museums.

#### THE SWISS GUARDS OF LOUIS XVI

Beneath the Lion of Lucerne, sculptured from the natural sandstone of the Swiss lake region with its paw sheltering the Bourbon lily and its body transfixed by a broken lance, are the names of the patriotic Swiss Guard of the French King Louis XVI whose self-sacrifice in defending the Royal family has immortalized their glorious battle cry, "The Swiss! the Swiss never surrender but with their lives." It was a strange fact that the Swiss Guards who were in sympathy with the struggles for liberty and equality under despotic rule should have remained loyal to the French king in those turbulent days of July, 1789. All the more so, since the

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French Guards had deserted their royal master and joined the mob that stormed the Bastile, the ancient fortress and political prison which dominated Paris.

When the first rumblings of the French Revolution awakened the other nations of Europe to the realization that the old monarchy of France was in danger, they began to plot with Louis to subdue his rebellious subjects. The secret plans of the King, however, were not slow in reaching the ears of the Revolutionary leaders. The King in fear for his life attempted to escape to the frontier, but was arrested and brought back to Paris from Varennes. Louis XVI was trusted no longer to keep his word to the people, and, in 1792, when the French nobles who had been exiled to foreign courts joined with the Austrians and Prussians in an invasion of France, the mighty storm burst. A great mob crazed with drink, and frenzied at the approach of the invaders, seized the Tuileries palace and plundered its rooms. They were opposed stubbornly at the entrance to the royal apartments by the loyal Swiss Guards, who lost their lives to a man in defending the King and his Queen, Marie Antoinette.

### THE CAVALRY OF OLD POLAND

The cavalry of the ancient republic of Poland was a splendid body of horsemen centuries before the Rus-



sians conquered and put them under the yoke. In those days of free landholders the assemblies that made the laws gathered on horseback and the nobles looked with scorn upon the tradesman and the farmer. In their estimation the only occupation fit for a gentleman was riding and fighting. Their chargers were of the best breed obtainable and their weapons, their daggers, scimiters, battle axes and bows and arrows were adorned with inlaid work in silver, gold and precious stones. Each of the commanders wore a signet ring, like the Roman generals, which established his regiment and rank.

The German servants, or squires, who accompanied the Polish nobles fought in a line behind them. Each one of the proud freeholders knew no superior rank and they consequently called each other "Towarzirz," or "Companions." There were many Cuirassier and Hussar regiments among the Companions; the Cuirassiers wearing a steel helmet and cuirass and carrying a lance, sabre and bow; the Hussars wearing a hauberk, or suit of mail, with short sleeves and carrying a sabre and lance. Some of the Hussars carried two sabres, one at the sword belt and the other fastened to the saddle.

The Hussars in their magnificent equipment with their gaily trimmed lances presented a stirring sight as they galloped in squadrons of one hundred men followed



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by a rear guard of squires, consisting of four servants to each rider. The army was divided in the days of the Polish Republic into three parts; the National troops paid for and equipped by the Republic; the "pospolite," or assembly of nobles, on horseback; and the German mercenaries, or squires. A Polish historian records the fact that the lances carried by the cavalry were at one time twenty feet long and fluttering with many pennons and markers.

### THE TURKISH CAVALRY

The Turks in the sixteenth and the early seventeenth centuries were feared the most for their rapidly moving light cavalry, whose impetuous charges and sudden daring expeditions into the enemy's camp struck terror to the infantry of European nations. The Spahis were armed with lances, javelins and scimiters, or curved sabres which they used with dangerous skill. The Spahis who fought in Europe acquired the knowledge of firearms and added carbines and pistols to their equipment. At one time the Turkish Cavalry called the "wolves of Asia" penetrated as far as the gates of Vienna.

They had no taste for fighting in regular lines, or squadrons, but formed a kind of football "flying wedge" and when they had reached the infantry columns fell

upon them in hand-to-hand conflict with scimiter and lance. The army of Soliman, the Magnificent, which opposed the Hungarian army under King Louis at Mogatch, had among its two hundred thousand picked soldiers some of the most bold light horsemen in the world. The Sultan's forces were drawn up in a triple line: in front rank, the army of Asiatic Turkey; in the second the army of European Turkey, and as a reserve stationed on a hill the Sultan himself with his famous Janissaries, or guards.

A fighting bishop led the Hungarian heavy cavalry in a terrific charge which penetrated the first line of Asia. The advantage was only temporary for the horses of the Hungarians carrying such a heavy weight of men and armor were exhausted when the line of Europe was reached, and the first line of Asiatic Turks, who rallied by this time, closed about the Hungarian horsemen and practically destroyed them. King Louis came dashing to the rescue, with his famous regiment of knights. Sweeping through both lines he gained the summit where Soliman the Magnificent would have been captured, but for the brave self-sacrifice of the pages and eunuchs of his escort. The dauntless knights of the Hungarian body guard suddenly found themselves surrounded by the lines of Asia and Europe and unable to withstand their charges fled in confusion. Those who

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were not killed on the field were drowned in the marshes to which they retreated. The Turks outnumbered the Hungarians seventy to one, and though the army of the fighting Bishop Tomori of 30,000 men was defeated and practically annihilated, the battle of Mogatch is counted a glorious day in the history of old Hungary.

### THE EXPLORER'S REGIMENT IN MEXICO

When Alaminos, the old pilot of Columbus, landed the young explorer's regiment at Cape Antonio, the army of Cortez consisted of one hundred and ten sailors, five hundred and fifty-three soldiers, including thirty-two crossbowmen and thirteen arquebusiers. Cortez, in spite of his youth, was a skilful campaigner, and appreciating the part cavalry must play in this strange country, had with great difficulty transported sixteen horses in his small caravels, which were scarcely large enough for his soldiers and crew.

Prescott in his "Conquest of Mexico" has described in stirring phrase how this little army of the Spanish cavalier won the first great battle at Tabasco on the 25th of March, 1519, against the Aztec army of forty thousand men. Cortez led the main charge himself supported by the fire of his ten heavy cannon and the four falconets (or small cannon). At the same time the six-

teen horsemen attacked the Aztecs in the rear at a critical moment when the soldiers and crossbowmen were fighting for their lives in the center of a great mass of Indians armed with javelins. The Indians had never seen fighting men on horses and when they turned and discovered the Spanish cavalry riding fiercely upon them they fled in a panic, believing them to be the fabled Centaurs described by their soothsayers.

Cortez next found himself in the country of the Tlascalans, a small independent state lying between Mexico and the sea, and in the battles with their armies the Spanish cavalry again was the main dependence, though the rest of the little army fought valiantly. The common soldiers of the Tlascalans had neither armor nor covering except a girdle and their naked bodies were painted with the escutcheon or colors of their ruling prince. The commanders wore shirts of quilted cotton as a protection from the arrows. Over this cotton baldric the wealthier princes wore cuirasses of gold and silver made of thin plates. A feather mantle of gorgeous design, leather boots, or sandals, and a wooden helmet studded with gold fashioned like a wild beast's head completed their brilliant uniform. Instead of a sword they carried a two handed staff in which were inserted sharp transverse blades.



## THE STANDING ARMY OF LUXEMBURG

Tucked away in a quiet corner of the border near Belgium is the little, independent, buffer state of Luxemburg, usually overlooked by the traveler and only now come into prominence during the present great war when its neutrality has been violated by the German army. The Grand Duke of Luxemburg, however, was playfully regarded as a War Lord for did he not send a representative to the Hague Peace Conference, on the score perhaps, that he had the smallest standing army in the world. The peace establishment of this amusing little legion is about three hundred men, one hundred and fifty soldiers and one hundred and fifty gendarmes, or policemen.

## THE BASHI BAZOUKS

The Bashi Bazouks who were frequently found in the Turkish armies that fought Russia have a bad reputation; in fact, the worst in the world for discipline. Even the Turks who maintain and equip the Bashi Bazouks have to resort to extreme methods to keep them in order. They have been willing to fight for any nation that would pay them for it, but they have never been successfully attached to any army except as guerillas. In the Crimean War even under British gen-



erals of long experience with native troops they were a distinct failure.

The Bashi Bazouks are, nevertheless, daredevil fighters and of fine athletic proportions. They wear a picturesque nondescript uniform in which they can move about freely. In the girdle about their waist they have a whole arsenal of weapons (knives, pistols, dirks, etc.) many of them out of date. In order not to interfere with this collection of sharp and dangerous instruments they have a peculiar sidelong gait when they walk. The go-as-you-please methods of undisciplined fighting practised by these guerillas is not unlike that of the Croats, Pandours, and Tolpatches found in the Austrian army which fought Frederick in the Seven Years' War.

#### THE MEXICAN RURALES

The most effective troops in the days of Santa Anna were his squadrons of well mounted and wild riding cavalry. In order to bring this arm of the Mexican Army up to its fighting quota his efficient staff officer, General Lagarde, organized a troop of ranchmen uniformed in their rough and ready tight fitting *ranchero* trousers and baldric of leather. When Santa Anna fell they became highwaymen and changed their workaday uniform for sombrero and trousers, that were lavishly ornamented with silver, with gay saddle trappings and

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gold mounted accoutrements which won for them the nickname of *Plateados*.

These bandits were a plague, as the bandit of Mexico is in our day, hiding away in their hidden retreats in the untrailed mountains and swooping down on the ore wagons or travelers on their way to Vera Cruz or Mexico City. A keen-witted Mexican executive, Comonforts, conceived the happy idea of "setting a thief to catch a thief," and he organized them into a kind of constabulary guard of 4000 men and they became the irregular troops or mounted policemen known as *Rurales*.

Each man has his own horse and takes care of himself and his mount out of his pay. They are armed with a carbine and revolver and wear in these troubled days a service uniform of khaki. Their gala day uniform in early days of the great Dictator, Porfirio Diaz, was resplendent with silver buttons and bright pipings, silver stirrups and saddle mountings. Over the saddle pommel was usually thrown a light horsehair lariat and on the cantle was strapped a scarlet blanket.

The Rurales are splendid horsemen and good marksmen. The superiority of their drill and equipment has made them, even in the recent régime of Huerta, more efficient than the infantry regiments of the Federal Army, though their duties are more like Canadian Mounted Police.

## THE IMPERIAL VOLUNTEERS AND YEOMANRY

The Imperial Volunteers and the Yeomanry, although organized for a single campaign and disbanded after the Boer War, have honor rolls worthy of more veteran regiments. The Honorable Artillery Company of London raised from their ranks and sent to South Africa, the City of London Imperial Volunteers, a body of picked men consisting of one hundred and thirty officers and privates. They were equipped with Vickers-Maxim rapid-fire guns and showed marked efficiency and bravery at the Battle of Praetoria in January, 1900. Their commander was Lieutenant Colonel, the Earl of Albemarle.

Another conspicuous volunteer body was the Imperial Yeomanry recruited from various countries of England and who proved their quick adaptability and mettle at the Relief of Ladysmith under their Colonel, Earl of Dundonald. Their return to England was an occasion of much enthusiasm.

## THE EVZONES, A FAMOUS GREEK REGIMENT

In April, 1897, the descendants of a mighty race of heroes burning with indignation over the ruthless massacre by the Turks of their countrymen in Crete could not be curbed by the diplomatic influence of the Great

Powers. Perhaps the most famous and picturesque of the regiments that marched against the Turks were the Evzones, the picked men of the Grecian Army. Six feet and more, with their blue coats emphasizing their magnificent broad shoulders, and the quick play of their bronzed and muscular legs, encased in long white gaiters, showing beneath their short white starched fustanella,



The broad shouldered men of this famous Greek regiment, that fought side by side with the foreign legions in the battles against the Turks, wear a red cap with a blue tassel, blue embroidered jacket with loose sleeves, the national fustanella (or white starched skirt), long white leggins and tufted shoes. The Evzones fought side by side in the Greco-Turkish War with patriotic volunteers from Europe, Asia Minor and America.



they fought side by side with the Foreign Legion at Damokos where their allies, the brave Garibaldians, lost sixty men. Forced to retire from their position, they retreated in the moonlight along the ancient road to Thessaly and not far from the Pass of Thermopylæ they halted to defend the Phourka Pass. The towering crags above them were crowned by a weatherbeaten medieval convent and they bravely held their position in the shadowy pass as did their Hellenic forebears until the Turks outflanked them by storming these heights.

In the Epirus campaign, under General Manos, associated with Hellenes who had patriotically returned from America, Asia and Europe, they put the Turkish army to rout and pursued them to Hanopulos. In 1913 during the Balkan War, this intrepid regiment was again at the front and with other fearless Greeks stormed and captured the almost impregnable Fort St. Nicholas. It was the traditional valor of such fighting regiments as the Evzones in the little army of Greece that caused a Turkish officer to report that the most terrible antagonist with whom the Ottoman armies had to contend was not the Bulgarian, but the Greek. The taking of all the Ægean Islands by King George's hastily equipped navy and the capture of Salonika and Yanina by his valiant regiments prevented the landing of Turkish reinforcements at Smyrna.



## CHAPTER XII

### SOME REGIMENTS OF EUROPE IN THE GREAT WAR OF 1914

A HUNDRED years ago the armies of the allies triumphed over Napoleon at Waterloo in one of the greatest battles of history. In the last days of July, in this year of 1914, the armies of Europe were again facing each other in another struggle for mastery, equipped with the terrible weapons of scientific warfare. Pictures of the ruins of Liège fortifications show how a single projectile from the new German siege guns can penetrate the strongest walls of concrete and steel. A war correspondent who visited the battle field of Marne describes for us the devastating power of the French field gun. "The Germans have been struck as if by simultaneous thunderbolts," he says, "reminding one of the sudden destruction of Herculaneum and Pompeii.

"On the borders of one of the forests a company of Prussian infantry at bivouac is laid out as it was surprised by the fire. Two sentinels are still grasping their rifles and little way off a signal messenger lies by himself. Further on, an officer on guard lies a few yards

from his men with loosened belts and lying in their blankets. Two of them still hold playing cards in their hands. Those sleeping and those waking were swept out of life together, without apparently having had time to move."

The real truth in regard to the cause of this great conflict now raging in Europe is hidden from us and, until this is revealed, it is the duty of the United States in the spirit of justice to maintain strict neutrality of speech and action.

The first warnings of the red lava of war came when a Servian fanatic removed from the world the Austrian heir apparent to the throne. Austria at once sent an ultimatum to Belgrade. Belgrade replied that its terms violated the independence of the Serbs. Soon the troops of the Dual Monarchy were crossing the Danube and threatening the Servian capital, which forced the Serbs to remove their government to the ancient city of Nish. Servia has been for many years under the protecting wing of Russia. The Czar could not see his wards in danger without registering a protest, first a diplomatic and then an armed one. Austria and Germany have been preparing for war for a generation. Germany by a sad error of Bismarck's policy has insisted in holding the French-speaking provinces of Alsace-Lorraine and by this injustice has kept alive a bitter feud with France.

France has always looked to her ally Russia to aid in recovering these conquered loyal provinces. The General Staff of Germany, scenting danger on all sides and, ignoring the nation's solemn treaty promises, invaded Belgium. This disregard of treaties as "a piece of paper" and the violation of Belgium's neutral territory carried with it a possible invasion of the British Isles, and England at once declared war. Even as we write these words the cables flash the news that the Italian citizens are eager to break their neutrality and win back from Austria the conquered provinces on the border.

We can be sure that many famous regiments of England, France, Germany, Austria and Russia, whose brilliant history we have followed, are winning new honors in this great war. Our reports from the battlefields are meager and uncertain. Here and there in the censored reports of the press correspondents and in the stirring battle tales of the wounded soldiers sent home for convalescence, we have been thrilled to find history repeating itself.

#### THE SCOTS GREYS AND THE HIGHLANDERS

A *Times'* correspondent, telegraphing from Havre, describes a wonderful series of charges carried out by the

Highlanders and the Scots Greys, acting in concert, in the fighting at St. Quentin.

"Just as at the battle of Waterloo," he says, "the Highland infantry regiment penetrated to the thick of the fight, the soldiers holding on to the stirrup leathers of the Greys, so again at St. Quentin this gallant maneuver was carried out many times.

"The Greys plunged straight into the ranks of the enemy, each horseman accompanied by a comrade on foot, and the Germans, taken completely by surprise, were broken up and repulsed with tremendous losses.

"A wounded man who was a witness of one of the charges described the effect of them as overwhelming.

"'Our men,' he said, 'came on with a mighty shout and fell upon the enemy with the utmost violence. The weight of the horses carried them into the close formed ranks of the Germans and the gallant Greys and the Kilties gave a fearful account of themselves.'"

#### THE 9TH LANCERS

The 9th British Lancers in an action near the Belgian border also repeated the famous charge of the Light Brigade at Balaclava:

"They rode straight at a German battery of eleven guns inside a wood that had been causing terrible havoc

in the allied ranks. Debouching into the open under a hail of melinite or lyddite from other German guns, they reached the battery in the woods, cut down all the gunners and put the guns out of action. Then, like their prototypes at Balaclava, they rode back and on their return fell in greater numbers still."

Another gallant deed is recorded for the regiment in the same action. Capt. F. O. Grenfell was hit in both legs and had two fingers shot off at the same time. Almost as he received these wounds two guns posted near by were deprived of their servers, all of whom, save one, were struck by the bursting of shrapnel. The horses for the guns had been placed under cover.

"'We'll get the guns back,' cried Grenfell, and at that, with a number of his men, in spite of his wounds, he did manage to harness the guns up and get them away."

#### THE 11TH HUSSARS

The 11th Hussars, who with the 9th Hussars, the 13th Light Dragoons and the "Death or Glory Boys" (the 17th Lancers), were in the charge at Balaclava, fought the other day beside the Connaught Rangers, the King's Own Scottish Borderers and the Royal Artillery at Mons, the first battle of the English expeditionary force. The 11th Hussars and the Connaughts (Irish) were in



front of the English and French line. Though it was the French plan to withdraw, these bold regiments could not be restrained by their officers from making three desperate charges against the enemy's guns which mowed them down.

#### ENGLISH GUARDS AT COMPIÈGNE

A guardsman, who was wounded near Compiègne on September 1, has given a vivid account of the fighting there and of the capture of ten German guns by the British troops.

"We were in a field," he says, "when the Germans dropped on us all of a sudden, as though from the sky. The first hint we had of their presence was when a battery of guns on the right sang out, dropping shells into a mob of us who were waiting for our turn at the wash-tub—the river. There was no panic as far as I saw, only some of our fellows who hadn't had a wash for a long time said strong things about the Germans for spoiling the best chance we had had for four days.

"We all ran to our posts in response to bugles which rang out all along the line, and by the time we all stood to arms the German cavalry came into view in great strength all along the left front.

"As soon as they came within range we poured a deadly volley into them, emptying saddles right and left,

and they scattered in all directions. Meanwhile their artillery kept working up closer on the front and right, and a dark cloud of infantry showed out against the skyline on our front, advancing in a formation rather loose for the Germans. We opened on them and they made a fine target for our rifle fire, which was very well supported by our artillery. The fire from our guns was very effective, the range being found with ease, and we could see the shells dropping right into the enemy's ranks.

"Here and there their lines began to waver and give way, and finally they disappeared. Half an hour later more infantry appeared on our right front, but we could not say whether it was the same or another body. This time they were well supported by artillery, machine guns, and strong forces of cavalry on both flanks. All came on a smart pace with the apparent plan of seizing a hill on our right. At the same moment our cavalry came into view, and then the whole Guards Brigade advanced. It was really a race between the two parties to reach the hill first, but the Germans won easily owing to their being nearer by half a mile.

"As soon as their guns and infantry had taken up a position, the cavalry came along in a huge mass with the intention of riding down the Irish Guards, who were nearest to them. When the shock came it seemed terrific to us in the distance, for the Irishmen did not recoil

in the least, but flung themselves right across the path of the German horsemen.

"We could hear the crack of the rifles and see the German horses impaled on the bayonets of the front ranks of the Guardsmen. Then the whole force of infantry and cavalry were mixed up in one confused heap, like so many pieces from a jigsaw puzzle. Shells from the British and German batteries kept dropping close to the tangled mass of fighting men, and then we saw the German horsemen get clear and take to flight as fast as their horses would carry them. Some had no horses, and they were bayoneted where they stood.

"While this was going on there was a confused movement among the German infantry, as though they were going to the assistance of the cavalry, but evidently they did not like the look of things, for they stayed where they were. After this little interruption the whole of the Guards continued their advance, the Coldstreamers leading this time with the Scots in reserve and the Irish in support.

"Taking advantage of the fight between the cavalry and infantry, the German artillery had advanced to a new position, from which they kept up a deadly fire from twelve guns. Our infantry and cavalry advanced simultaneously against this new position, which they carried together in the face of a galling fire. In the excitement

the enemy managed to get away two of their guns, but the remainder fell into our hands. The infantry and cavalry supporting the guns didn't wait for the onslaught of our men, but bolted like mad, pursued by our cavalry and galled by a heavy fire from our infantry and artillery, which quickly found the range.

"We heard later that the Germans were in very great force and had attacked in the hope of driving us back and so uncovering the French left, but they got more than they bargained for. Their losses were terrible in what little of the fight we saw, and when our men captured the guns there was hardly a German left alive or unwounded. Altogether the fight lasted about seven hours, and when it was over our cavalry scouts reported that the enemy was in retreat."

#### THE TURCOS AND SPAHIS

It is also reported that detachments of Turcos, the native Algerian troops, are fighting in Alsace-Lorraine, shoulder to shoulder with the French infantry. The Tri-Color was once before, in 1870, defended by these colonial troops and nothing could force them back save overwhelming odds. With other French Army Corps are the black fighting men of Senegal, the "Tirailleurs Senegalais," also men of splendid physique and disci-



pline. The nine regiments of Turcos comprise about 20,000 men and they are in the 19th military zone of mobilization. Outside of this zone are the Senegalais, seven regiments and six battalions. There are three regiments of Malagache Tiralleurs and one of Annamite Tiralleurs, making a total mobilization of 40,000 native troops in the Colonial Army of France not including Algeria.

The Spahis, Bedouin Horse, numbering 3500 men, are not strangers to European battlefields, as we have often noted, and they are well acquainted with the fighting qualities of their Teuton foemen who now oppose them since the days when their ancestors rode in the Turkish cavalry and in the armies of France.

### THE CUIRASSIERS

The Cuirassiers of France, who have been so closely identified with the military history of the Republic and Empire of France, are in this great European war adding new battles to their Roll of Honor, which includes Austerlitz, Friedland, Moscow, Quatre Bras and Sedan. A recent dispatch mentions two sons of the great Napoleonic marshal, MacMahon, also the third President of France, who are to-day leading French troops as a Colonel and Lieutenant-Colonel.



## THE RUSSIANS

The overwhelming defeat of Russian arms in Manchuria in 1904-05 by the Japanese should not blind us to the fact that Russia has one-fifth of the world from which to recruit her armies. Moreover, in the last ten years she has been quietly perfecting a great army. The Cossacks who hold their land by virtue of perpetual military service number over 500,000 men, trained from early youth in sharpshooting and horsemanship.

Russia's military system is divided into the European army; the army of the Caucasus, chiefly composed of Cossacks and the Asiatic army. The Cavalry, not including the Cossacks, now operating in East Prussia consists of two Life Guard and sixty-four other divisions, each division having one regiment of Dragoons, one of Uhlans, one of Hussars and one of regular Cavalry.

In the censored reports which come to us from the frontiers that border Russia, we find vague mention of cavalry charges in which the Cossacks employed their famous "Lava," of which a military authority writes:

"Germans and Austrians know this attack, and have many times tried to introduce it in their army, but without success. Their men and horses lacked the smartness which always distinguishes the Cossacks.

"Cossack horses are specially trained for this attack, and do not need to be guided by hand or knee; they know what they have to do after the leader has cried 'Lava!' So both hands of the Cossack are free for fighting.

"When news is received that a detachment cavalry is approaching or ready to attack, an order to be ready for a lava is given at once by the commander. The leading sotnia (squadron) spreads out to right and left, and the others at full speed form up on either side of it in a semi-circle or a half-moon. Every man with a lance is attended by a man wearing a shashka, a Cossack's sword, and all the officers, with the Colonel at the head, are in front of the men of each sotnia.

"The other sotnias in the neighborhood do not wait for a special order, and at once take up the same formation, endeavoring to surround the attacking force from another side. With loud shouts and calls the Cossacks rush down on their enemies, and even if this first assault is repulsed, another 'lava' pours down on the shaken enemy, and very often another surprises them in the rear."

#### THE COCKPIT OF EUROPE

The many pictures of the young Prince of Wales in his uniform of the Grenadier Guards recall the long list of glories of this famous regiment which was founded

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in 1660 and was commanded by William III, in Flanders. They were with the "Coldstreams" and the Scots in the attack in the ancient citadel of Namur, in 1708. Namur which lies on the banks of the Meuse is overtopped by steep cliffs and is again the scene of a great siege by German artillery and infantry. In the old days it was considered the most impregnable fortress in Europe.

The armies marched over the battlefield of Waterloo and for a time it looked as if there might be another battle of the nations on the field near Genappe. The "cockpit of Flanders," where the Scots, the Fusileers and the Grenadiers of England fought many battles, under Dutch William and other great captains, is again the battleground of the Allies.

### THE GERMAN GUARDS

In the German despatches we find mention of the First Foot Guards, the direct descendants of Frederick the Great's Guard Regiment, fighting with the same fearless valor they did at Mollwitz and Hohenfriedberg. In the fighting around Rheims between September 11th and 16th, companies of the German Guard regiments were commanded by volunteer officers, having lost all their other officers. A regiment of the Prussian Guard which left for the front with sixty-six officers can count to-day

only five. A German officer of the Guard captured at Rheims, says:

"For tactical reasons the Guard had to retreat. We had many killed and 800 injured. The first battalion of the First Regiment of the Guard has not another officer. The French artillery defiled so well that we could not discover its site. Gen. von Schack and the Colonel of the Second Regiment of Artillery of the Guard are among the killed.

"With what grief we learned each evening of the death of our comrades!" this officer continued to one of his captors. "It is necessary to have lived the battle and to find one's self in the evening without food and with only the hard earth for a bed to appreciate the truth of the words 'Warm was the day and bloody the battle; cold is the evening and calm is the night.'"

A letter, written by a lieutenant of the Twenty-sixth German Artillery, says in part:

"The Tenth Corps has been constantly in action since the opening of the campaign. Nearly all our horses have fallen. We fight every day from 5 in the morning till 8 at night, without eating or drinking. The artillery fire of the French is frightful. We get so tired that we cannot ride a horse, even at a walk. Toward noon our battery was literally under a rain of shrapnel shells from the French, and that lasted for three days."



## THE REGIMENTS OF LITTLE BELGIUM

The stubborn opposition with which the German invaders were met by Belgium's little army has developed a new nationalism—an intense patriotism that has not arisen in the country since the Belgians won their final independence from the Dutch.

The military system of other European nations, the so-called "Nation Under Arms," has not prevailed in Belgium. In this system every citizen is liable for duty and every able-bodied male receives military instruction. Until 1871 the Belgian army was composed of conscripts chosen for service by lot. Any man chosen had the privilege of hiring a substitute and the constant reenlistment of these substitutes made a body of professional soldiery.

In 1909, King Leopold was instrumental in raising a standing or national army, which has to-day about 45,000 men with a reserve of militia of 170,000. There are six infantry divisions of three brigades each and a cavalry division in addition to the fortress troops. Belgium has really paid more attention to her fortifications than to her army, because she has the greatest military engineer in the world, General Brialmont, the constructor of the forts of Antwerp, Namur and Liège. In the Belgian cavalry division of 22,000 men there are three



brigades of cavalry, several regiments of gendarmes, three battalions of horse artillery, a cyclist battalion, a cyclist engineer corps and a motor ambulance corps. The army did not go into service with khaki uniforms, but, as the war pictures indicate, the infantry wore the long blue tunic with black accoutrements and heavy knapsack. Attached to some of the infantry regiments are machine gun squads in which the guns are hauled by teams of sturdy little dogs.

The Garde Civique, or the militia, who did their duty so nobly beside the regulars at Liège and have borne their full share in the defense of the Kingdom, consist of about 90,000 men who drill only ten times a year. They are in reality true descendants of the Citizen Bands who rose against the Dutch in the War of Independence and have become a kind of citizen body like the old national guards of France, Germany and Italy.

All of us who love peace and our fellowmen cherish the hope that this is the last great war of the world. The day of reckoning is not far distant when the millions of European citizens will demand the fall of militarism and the abolition of costly arms and armaments. The progress of civilization and the arts of peace require that the next Congress of the Nations, which meets to remake the map of Europe after this great conflict is

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over, shall restore old boundaries and form new frontier lines more in accord with justice, the claims of race and the advancement of nobler political ideals.

THE END













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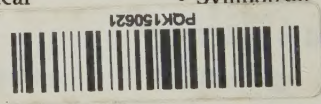
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